

2023 FLORIDA YOUTH SUBSTANCE ABUSE SURVEY

October 20, 2023

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ICF | Rothenbach Research and Consulting



Presentation Outline

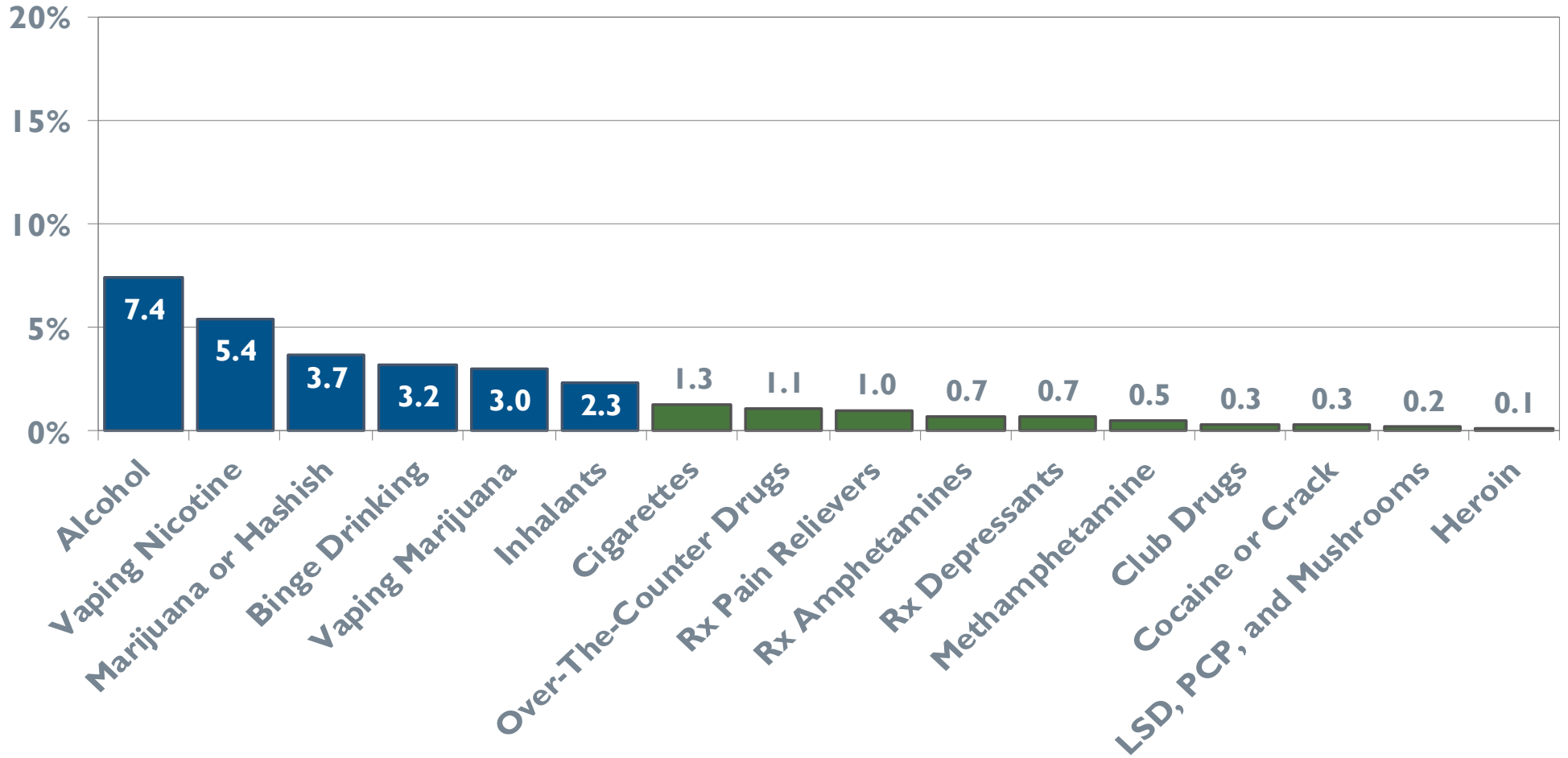
1. Methodology
2. Substance use prevalence rates
3. Trend lines for alcohol, cigarettes, and marijuana
4. Vaping nicotine and vaping marijuana
5. Delta-8 and Delta-10 THC and kratom
6. “One Pill Can Kill” and 988 Crisis Line
7. Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs)
8. Children in military families

Background and Methods

- The Florida Youth Survey (FYS) is a multi-survey data collection project:
Three questionnaires in 2023:
 - *Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey (FYSAS)*
 - *Florida Youth Tobacco Survey (FYTS)*
 - *Florida Specific Youth Survey (FSYS)*
- 2023 is a “state-level” sample, so not every county is selected to participate: 33 counties selected, 28 participated
- Final sample size is 9,101 across grades 6 through 12.
- 62.2% administered online and 37.8% with booklets.
- The margin of error is less than 2.0 percentage point for state-level M.S. and H.S. prevalence rates.

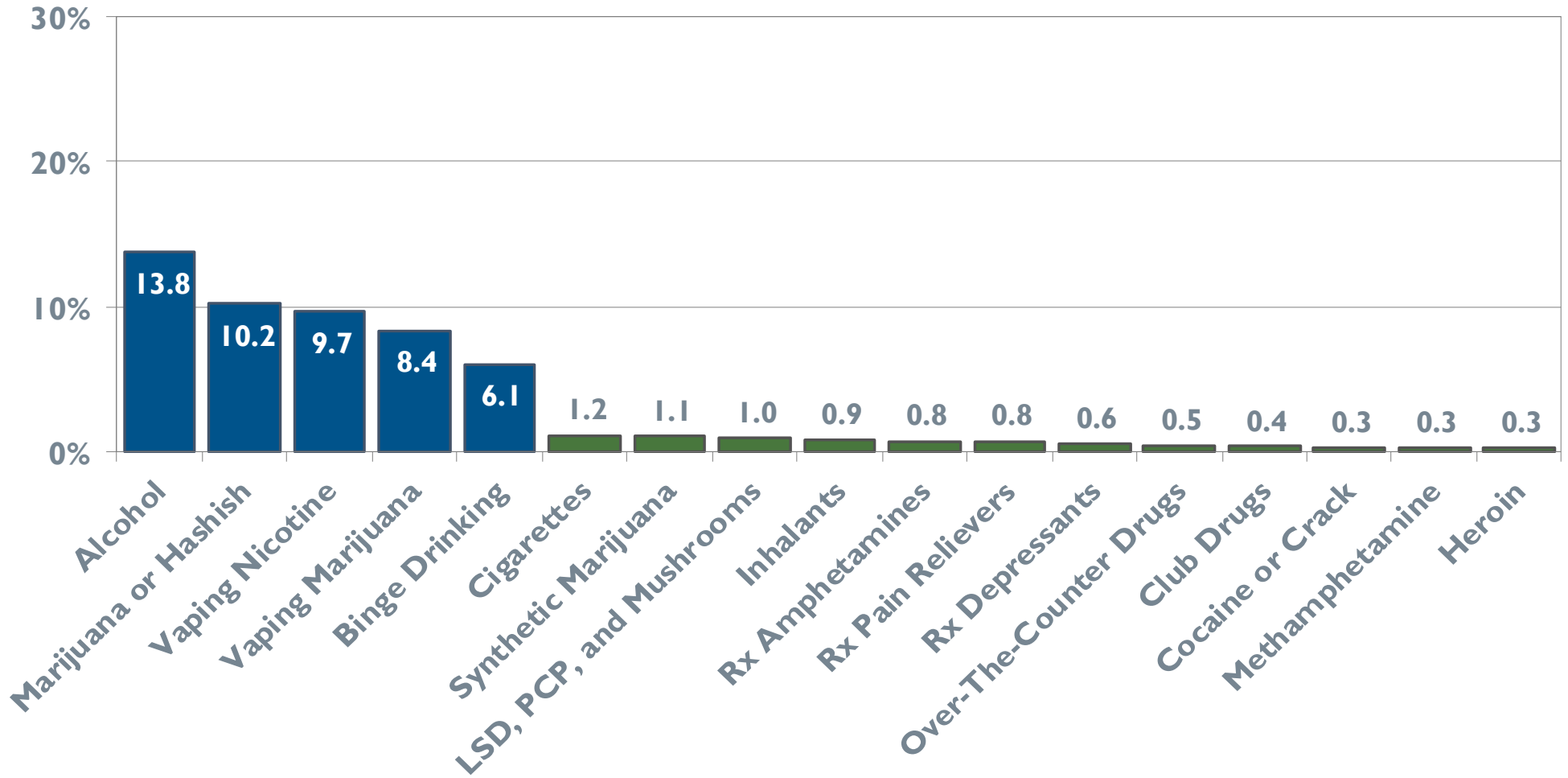
Past-30-Day Prevalence

Middle School



Past-30-Day Prevalence

High School

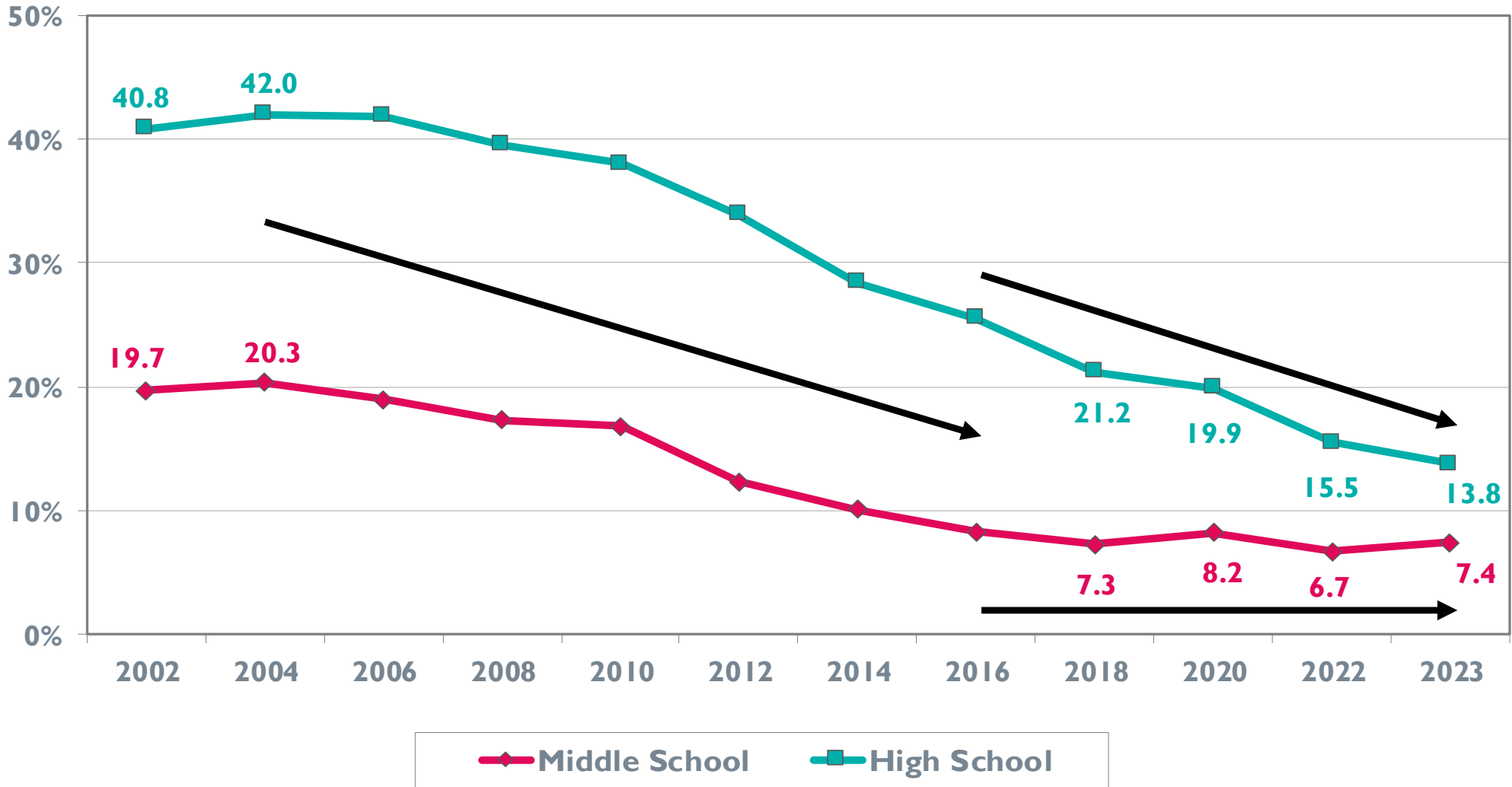


Past-30-Day Drug Use Summary

- Alcohol is the highest prevalence substance use category across age groups.
- Marijuana and nicotine vaping are in the second prevalence rate tier:
 - *Among M.S. students, nicotine vaping is more prevalent than marijuana use.*
 - *Among H.S. students, marijuana use is slightly higher than nicotine vaping.*
- Marijuana vaping and binge drinking are also higher prevalence.
- Rates of use for other drug categories, including cigarettes, are very low.

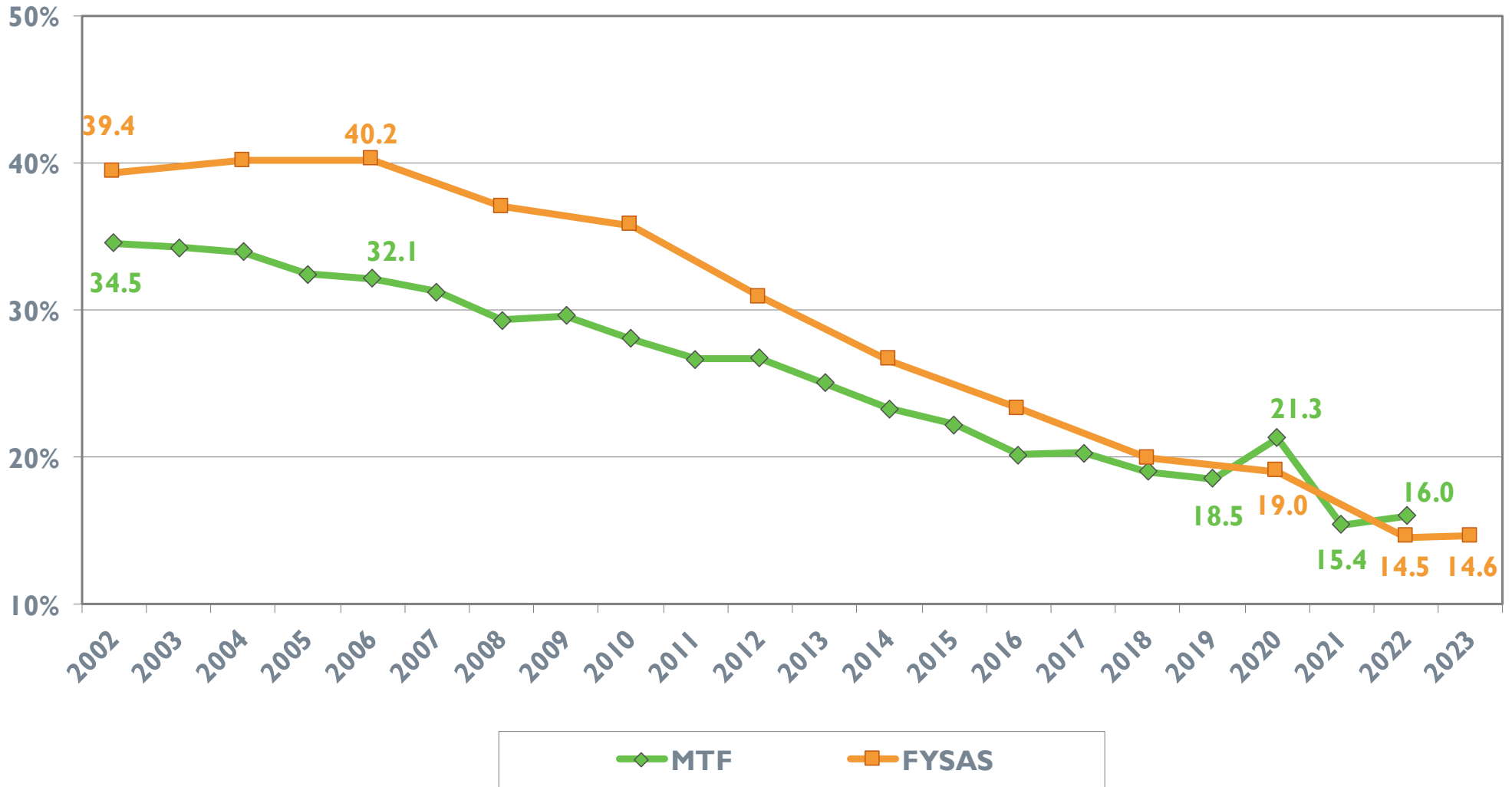
Alcohol

Past-30-Day Prevalence by Grade Cohort



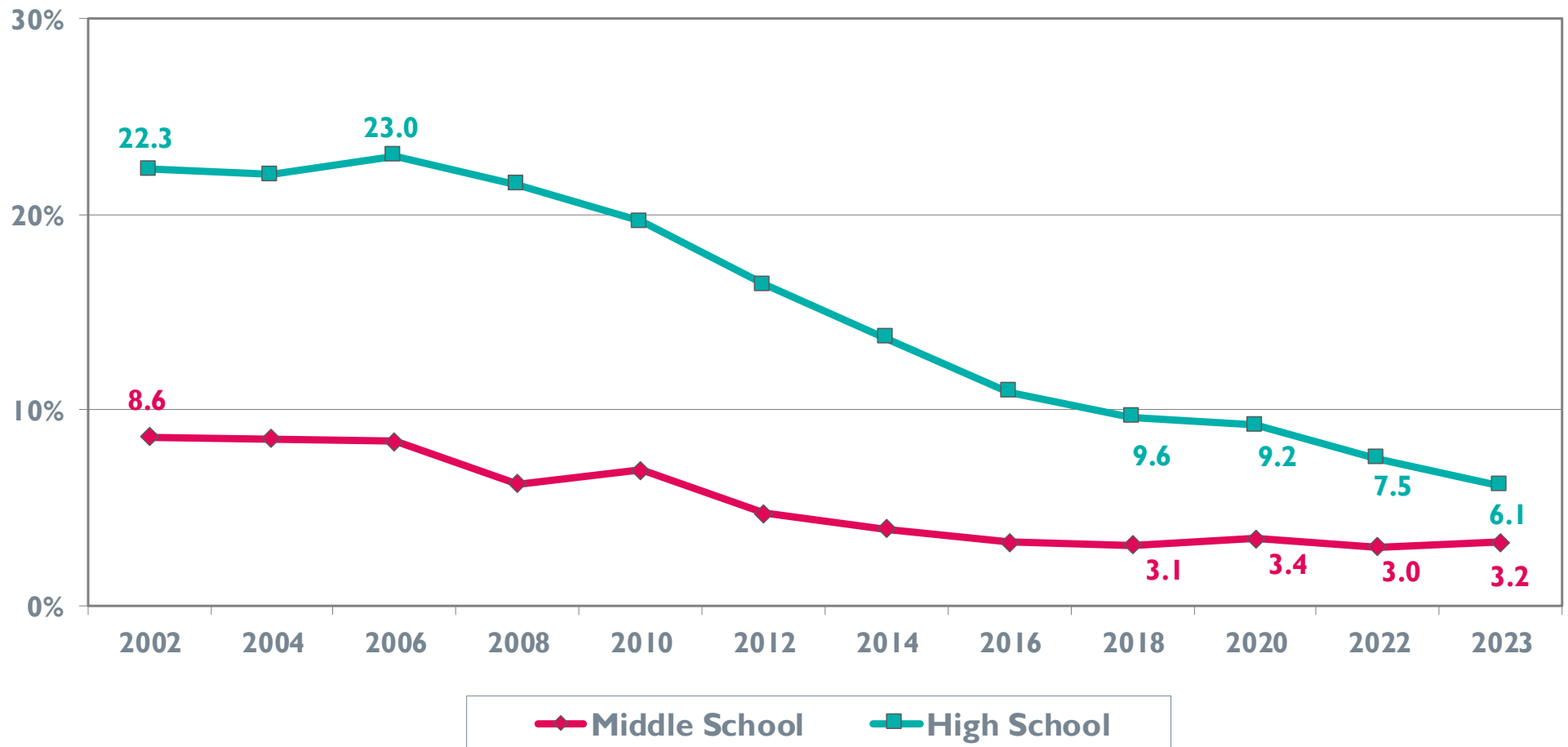
Alcohol

Past-30-Day Prevalence for 8th, 10th, and 12th Graders



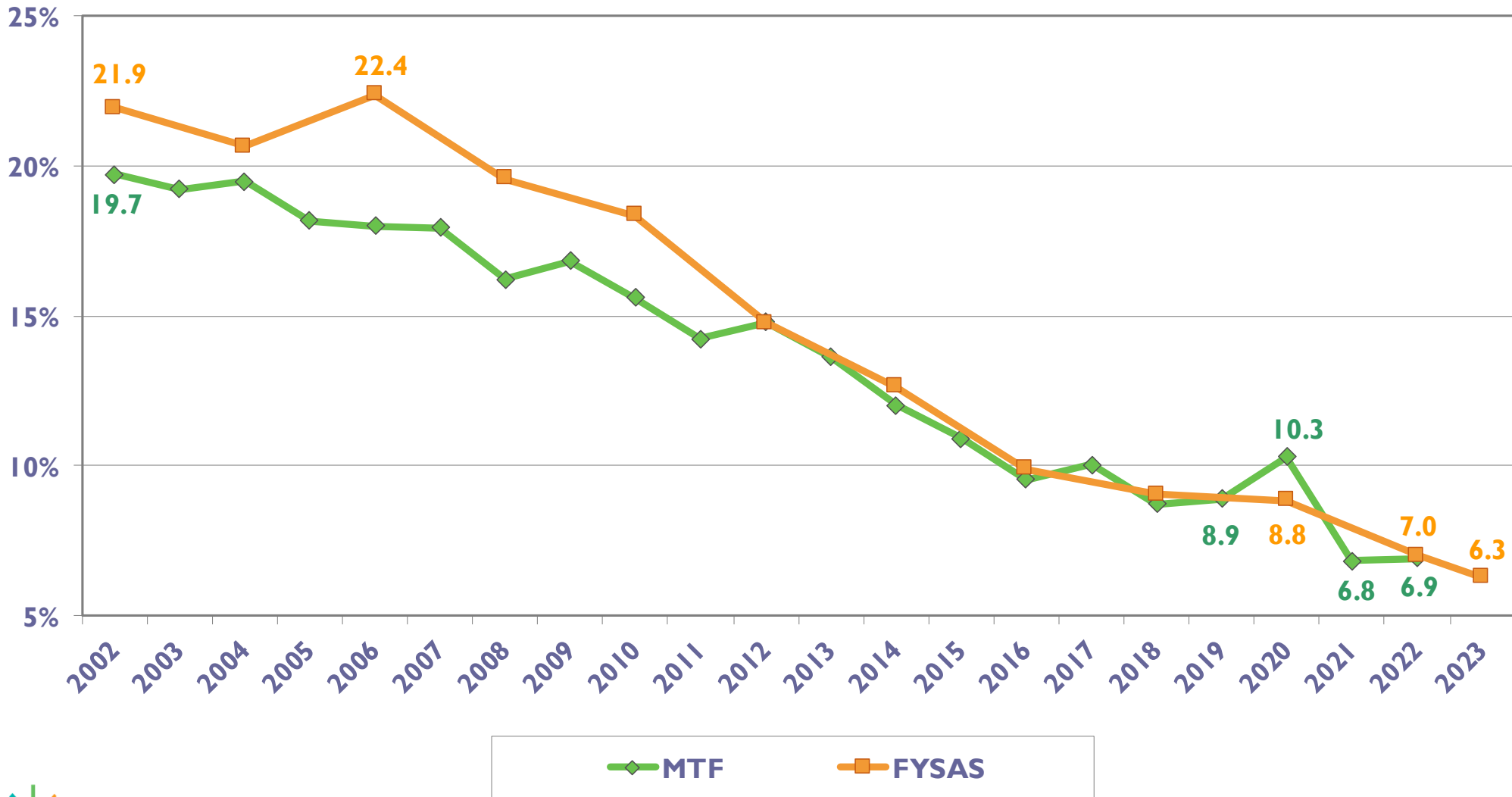
Binge Drinking

Prevalence by Grade Cohort



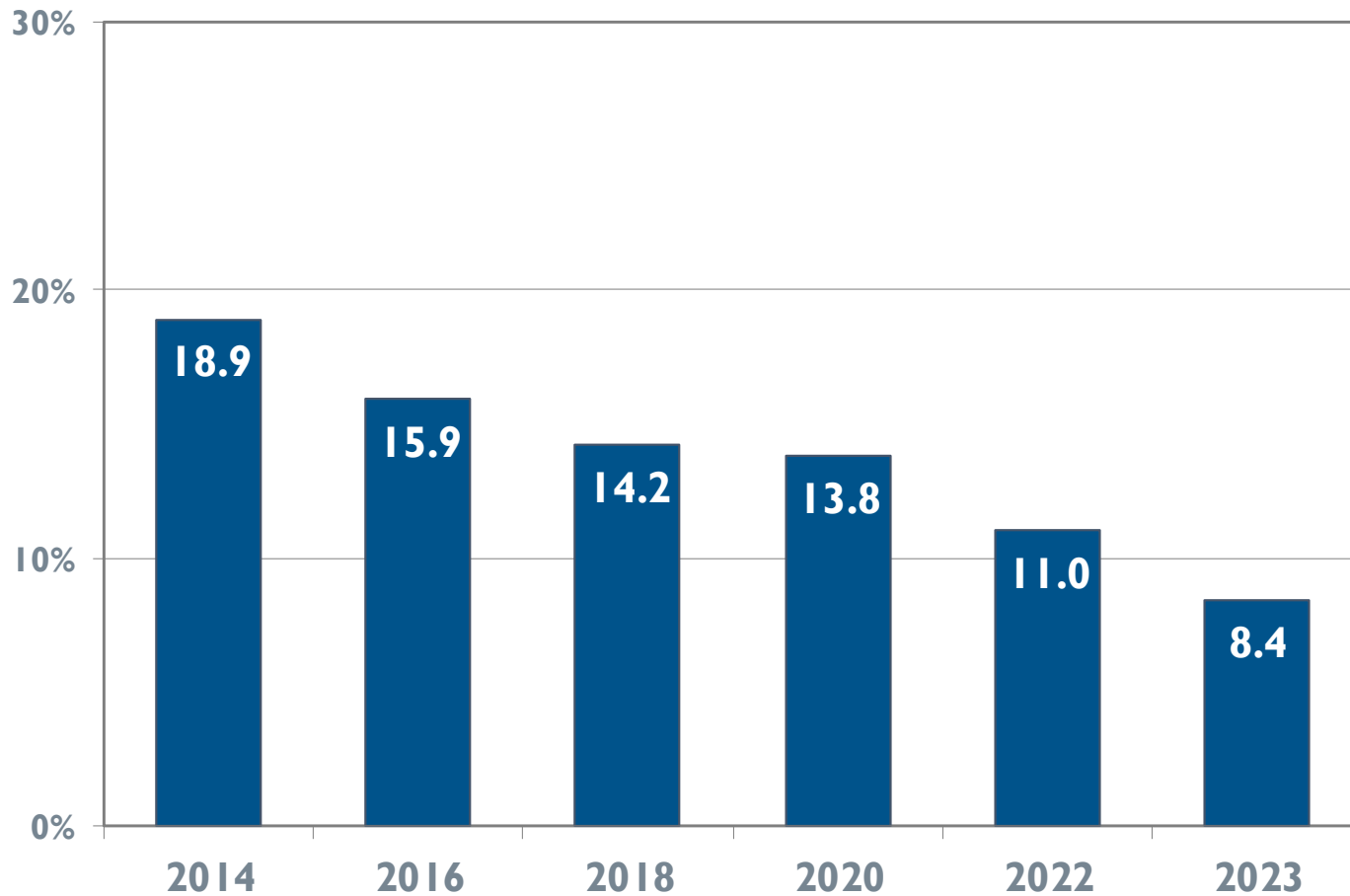
Binge Drinking

Prevalence for 8th, 10th, and 12th Graders



Blacking Out from Drinking

Lifetime Prevalence Among High School Students



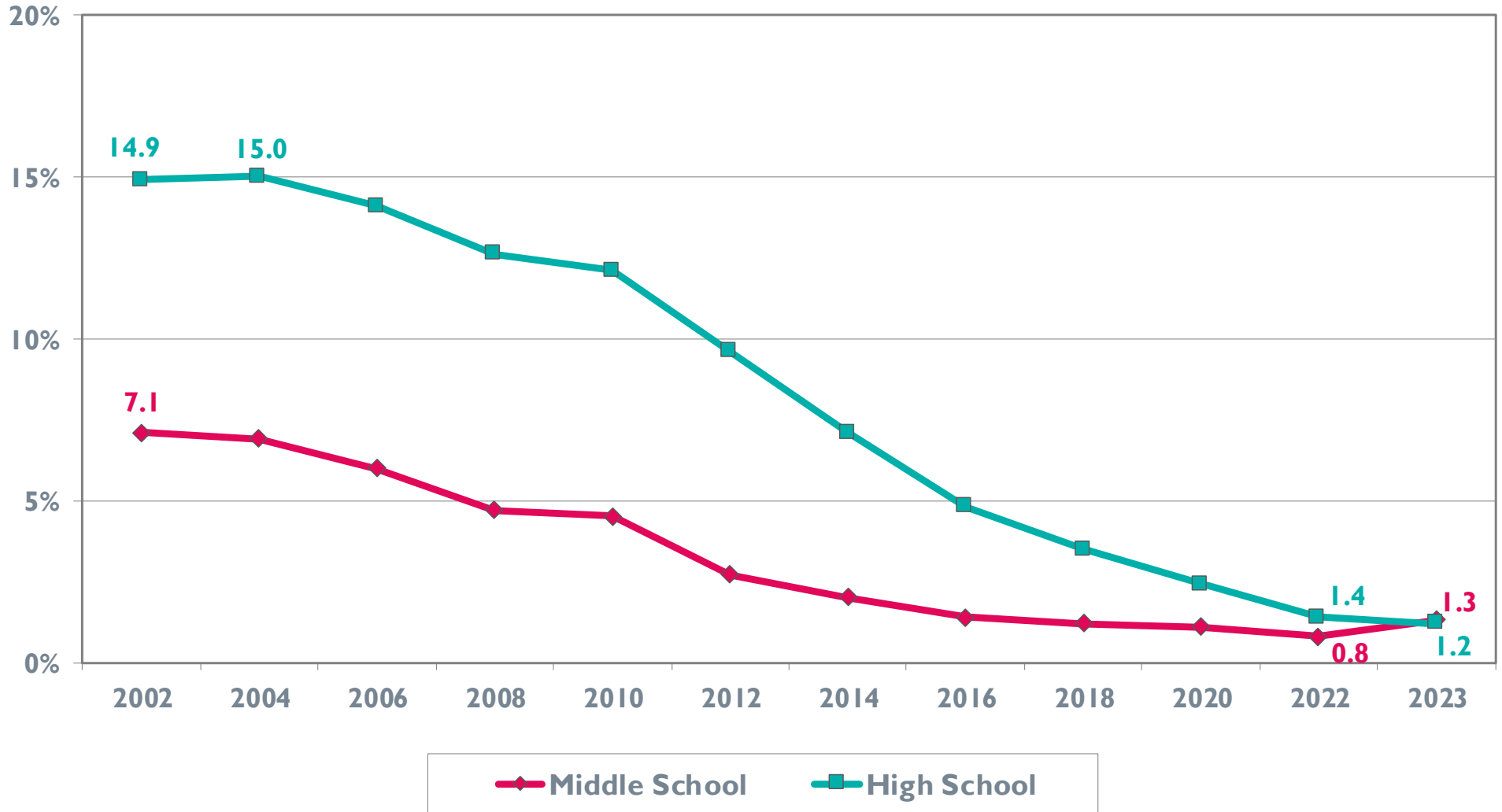
On how many occasions (if any) in your lifetime have you woken up after a night of drinking alcoholic beverages and not been able to remember the things that you did or places that you went?

Alcohol Use Trend Summary

- Overall, the long-term decline in alcohol use among Florida students continued in 2023.
 - *Past-30-day use 2004 to 2023: 28.2 percentage point reduction (H.S. students) and 12.9 percentage point reduction (M.S. students).*
 - *Binge Drinking 2004 to 2023: 16.9 percentage point reduction (H.S. students) and 5.4 percentage point reduction (M.S. students).*
 - *Blacking Out 2014 to 2023: 10.5 percentage point reduction (H.S. students).*
- Since 2018, the overall reduction in alcohol use has taken place among H.S. students. In contrast, the M.S. alcohol use trend is flat, consisting of small increases and small decreases.

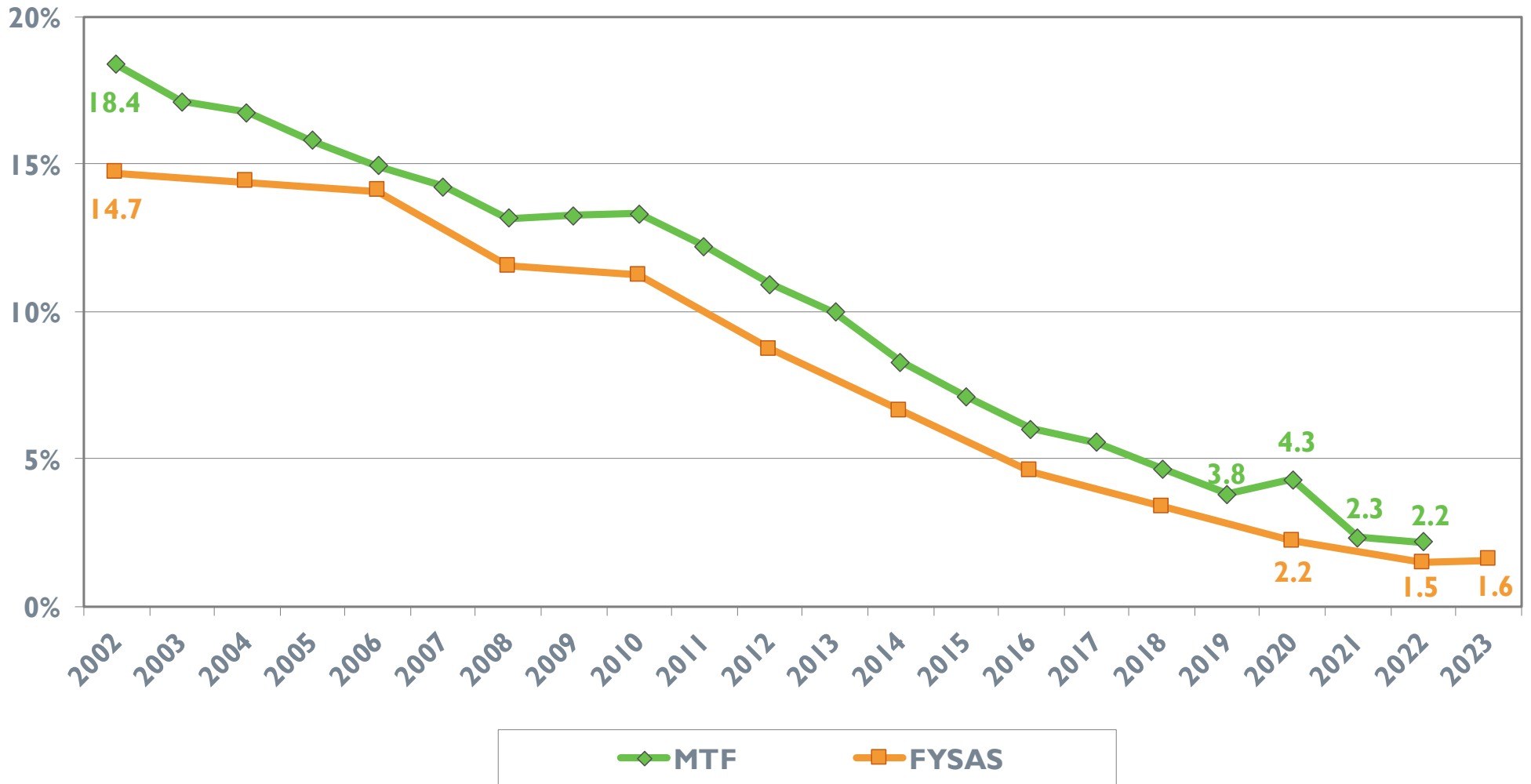
Cigarettes

Past-30-Day Prevalence by Grade Cohort



Cigarettes

Past-30-Day Prevalence for 8th, 10th and 12th Graders

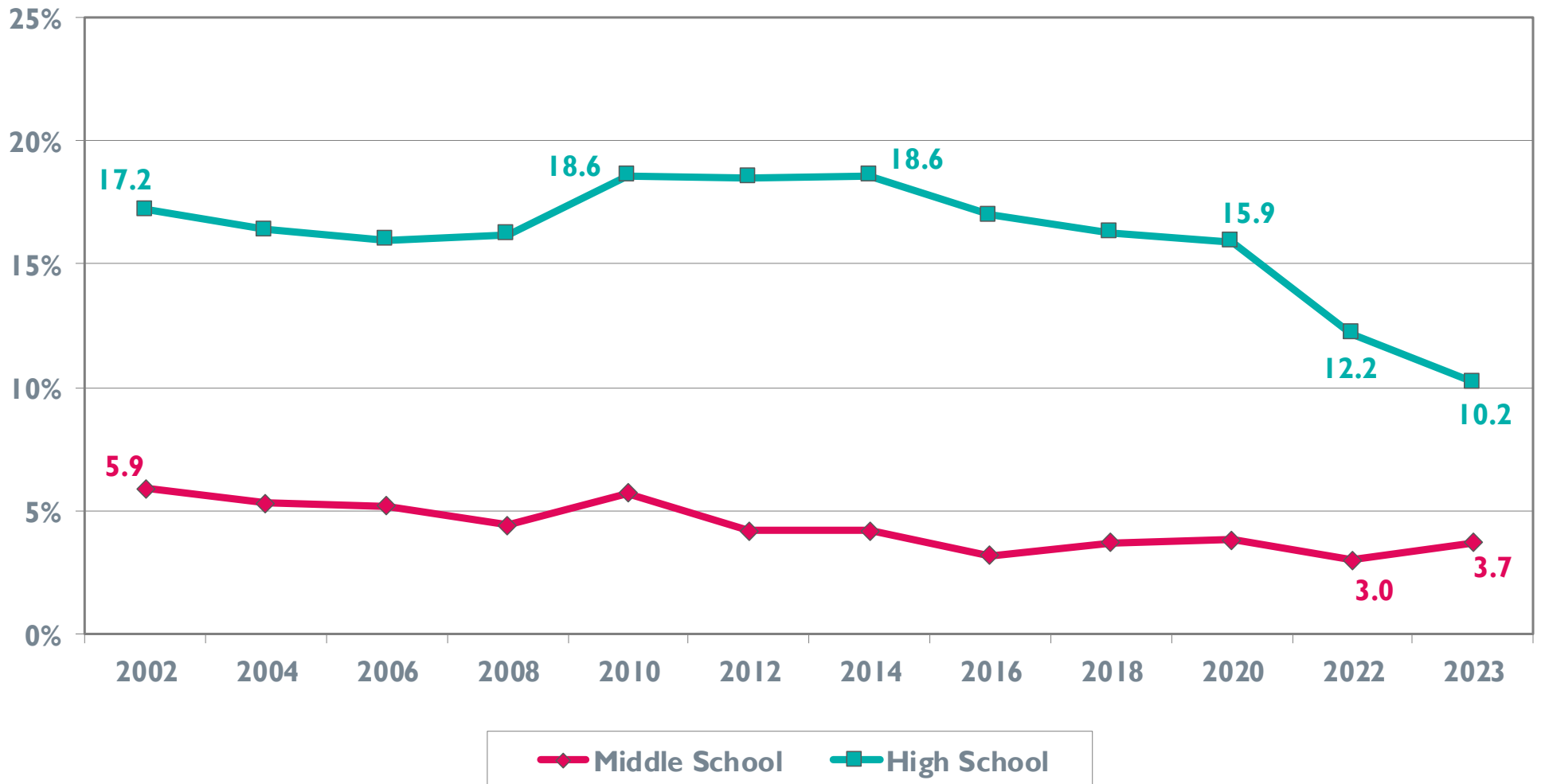


Cigarette Use Trend Summary

- Among H.S. students, the long-term reduction in past-30-day cigarette use continues, dropping from 15.0% in 2004 to 1.2% in 2023.
- Among M.S. students, the reduction in past-30-day cigarette use ended in 2022.
 - *Reduction from 7.1% in 2002 to 0.8% in 2022.*
 - *Increase from 0.8% in 2022 to 1.3% in 2023.*
- For the first time ever, cigarette use is higher among M.S. students than among H.S. students.

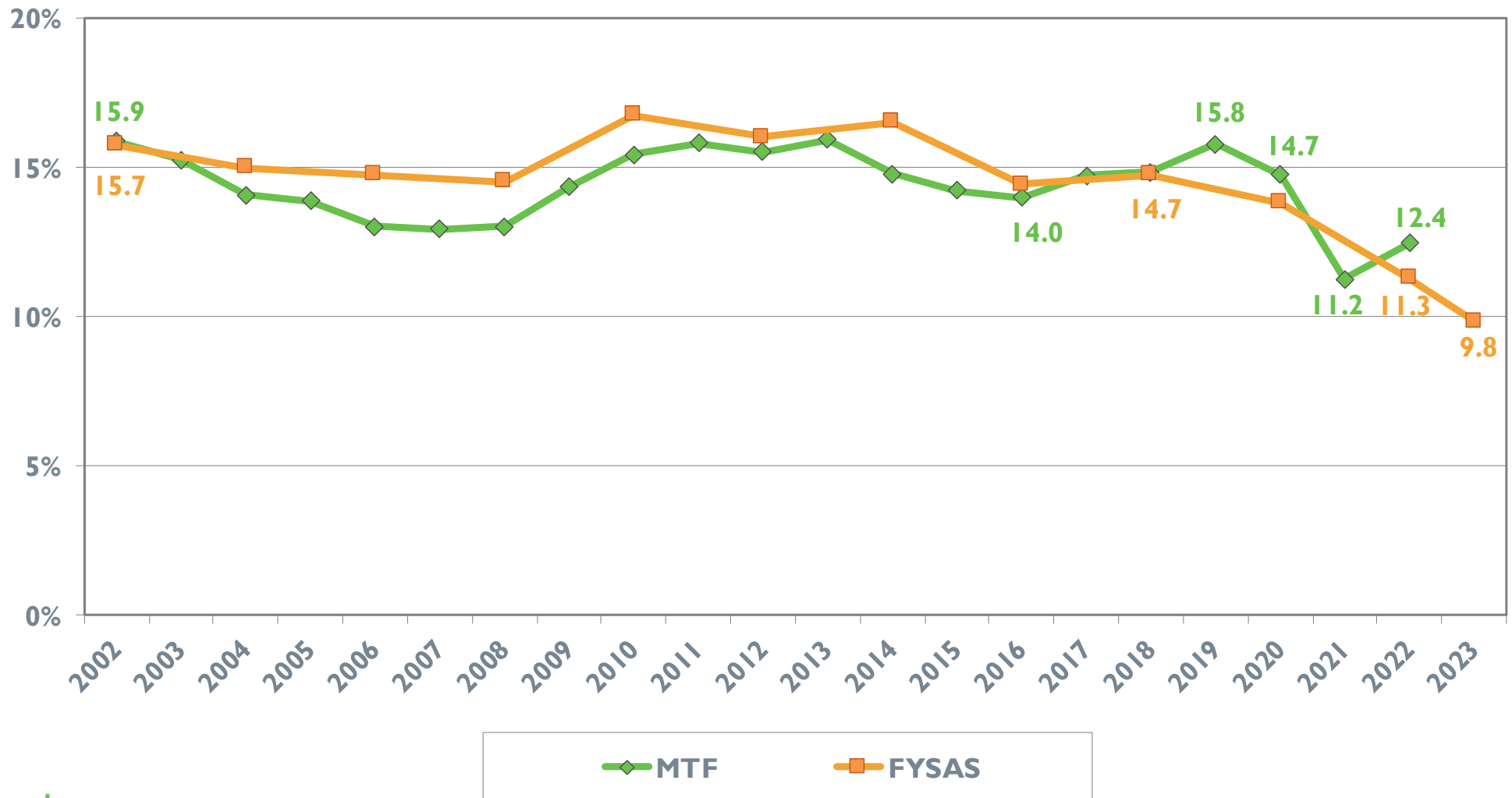
Marijuana

Past-30-Day Prevalence by Grade Cohort



Marijuana

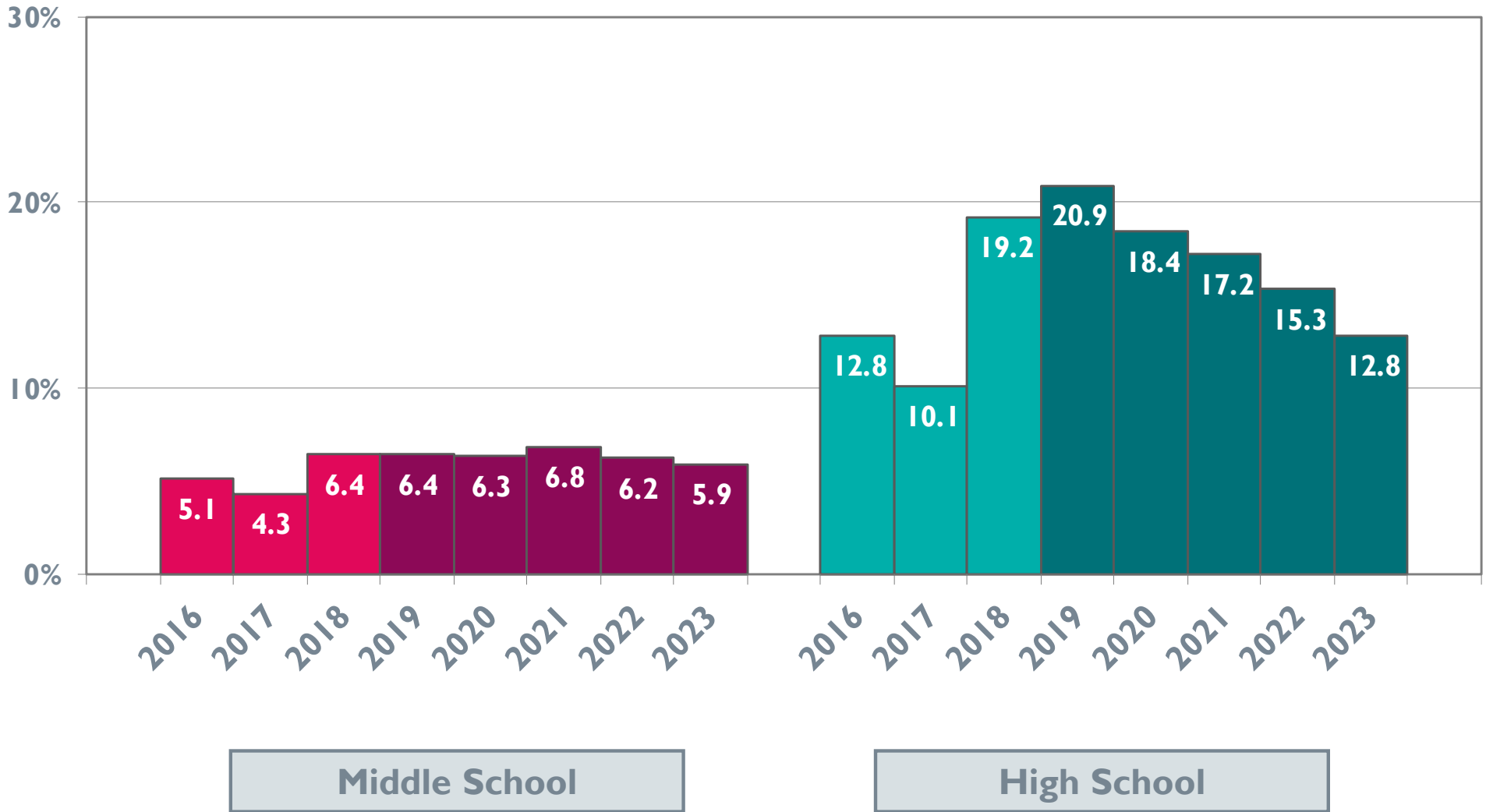
Past-30-Day Prevalence for 8th, 10th and 12th Graders



Marijuana Use Trend Summary

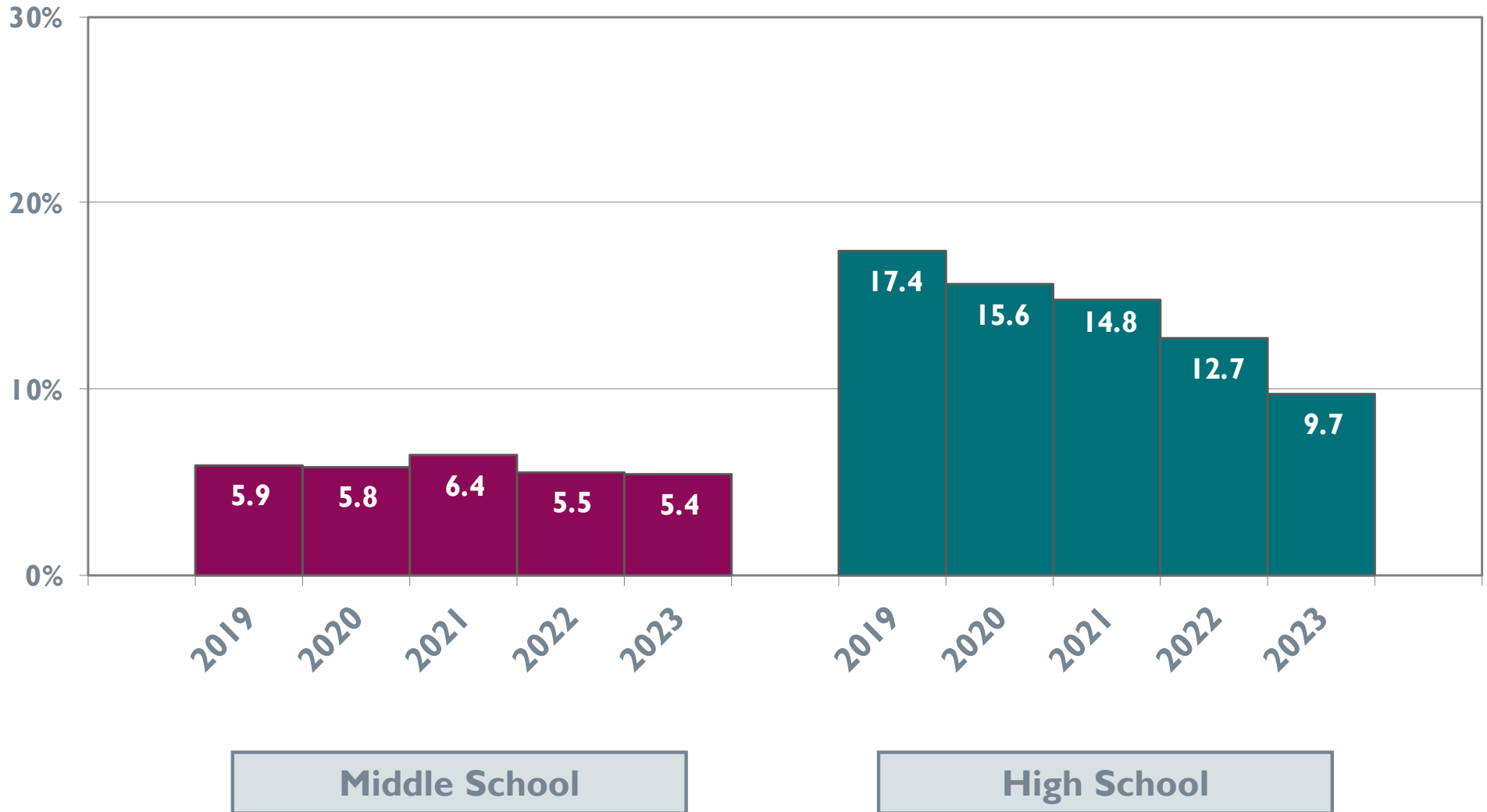
- Among H.S. students, 2023 data show a continuation in the long-term reduction in marijuana use.
 - *Past-30-day use has dropped from 18.6% in 2014 to 10.2% in 2023*
- Among M.S. students, there is no clear pattern of change in marijuana use over the past 10 years.
 - *After a decline in 2022, past-30-day marijuana use increased 0.7 percentage points to 3.7% in 2023.*

Any Vaping Past-30-Day Prevalence



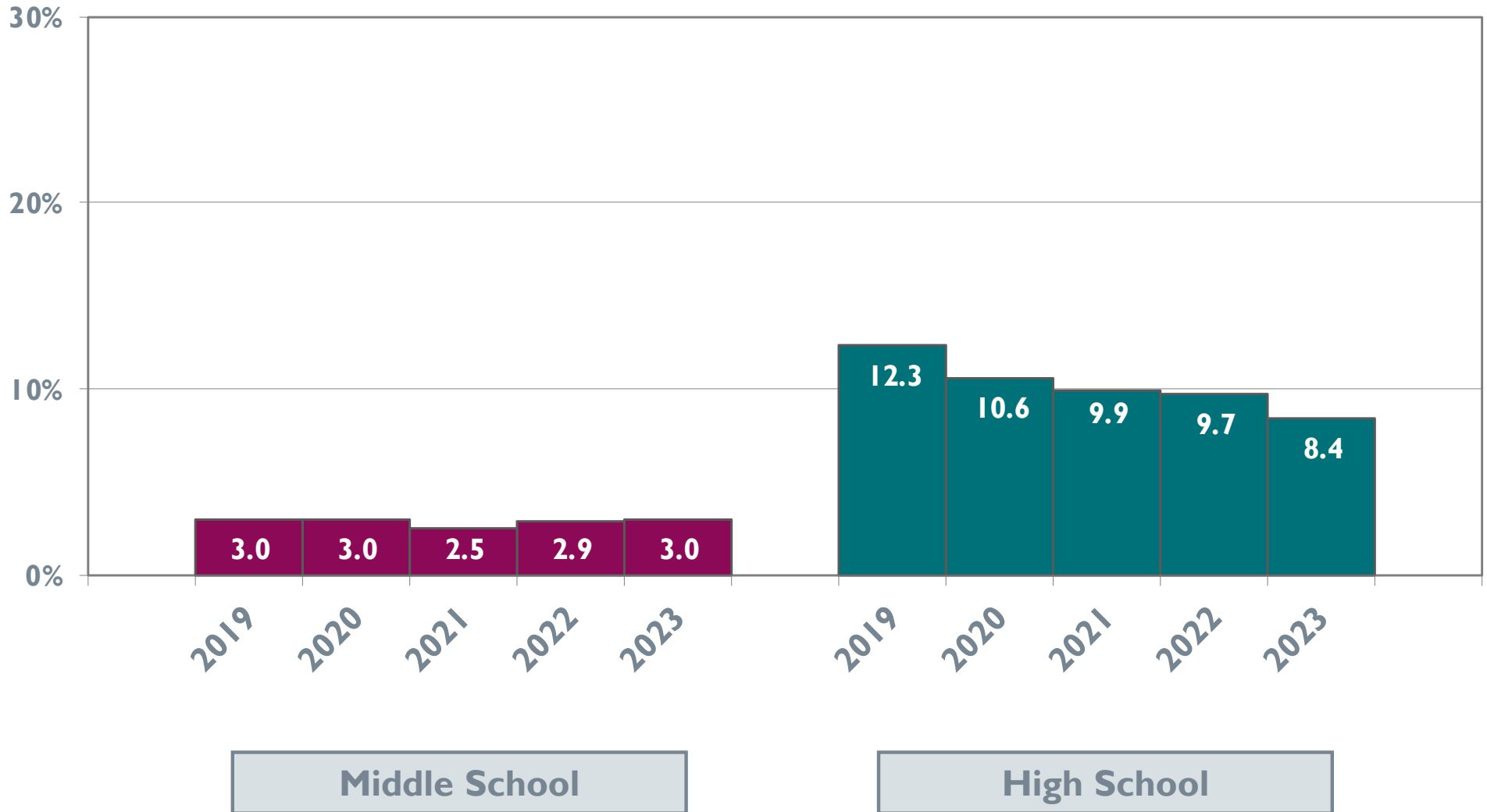
Nicotine Vaping

Past-30-Day Prevalence



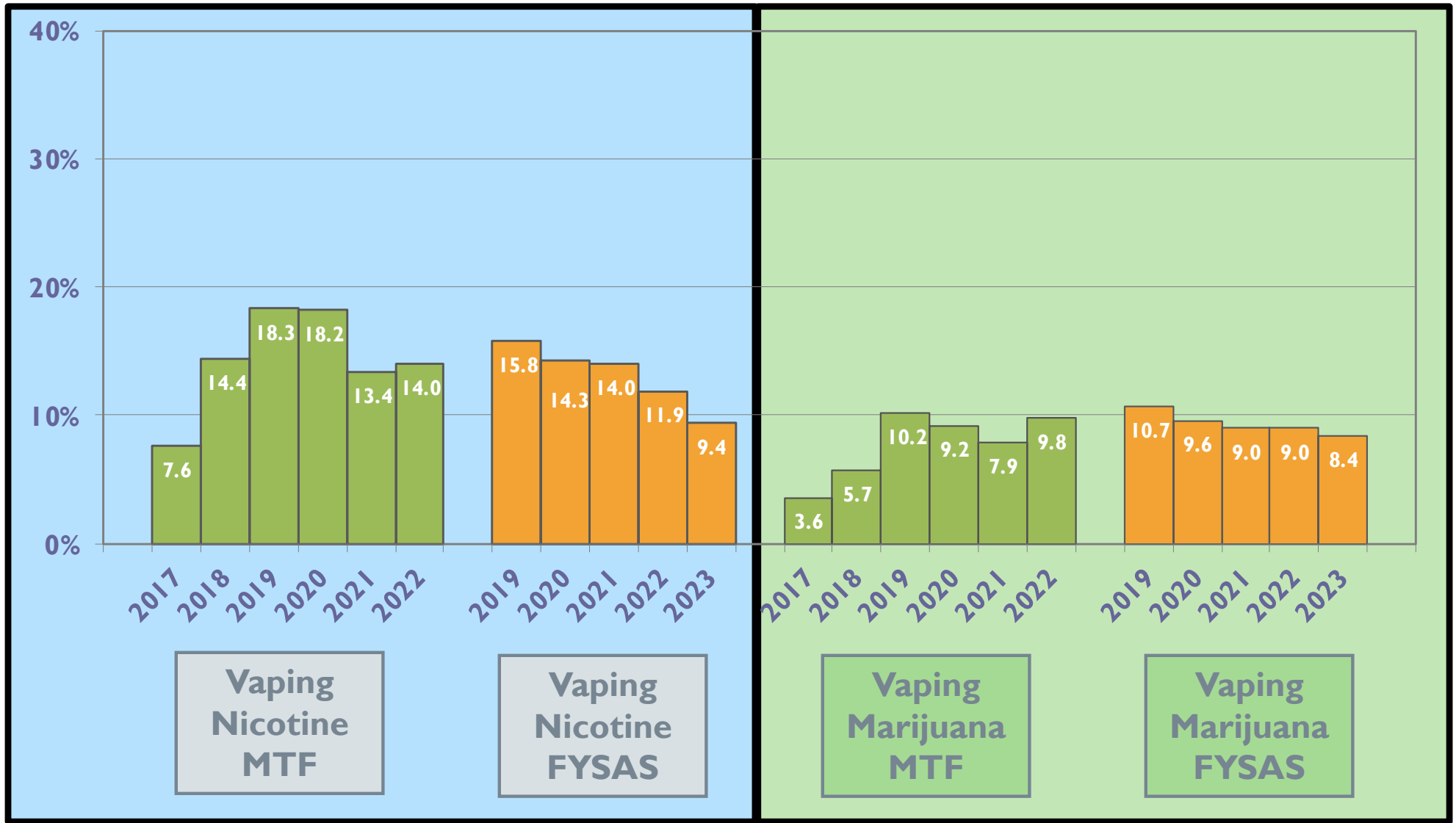
Marijuana Vaping

Past-30-Day Prevalence



Vaping Trend: MTF and FYSAS

8th, 10th, and 12th Grades, Past-30-Day Prevalence

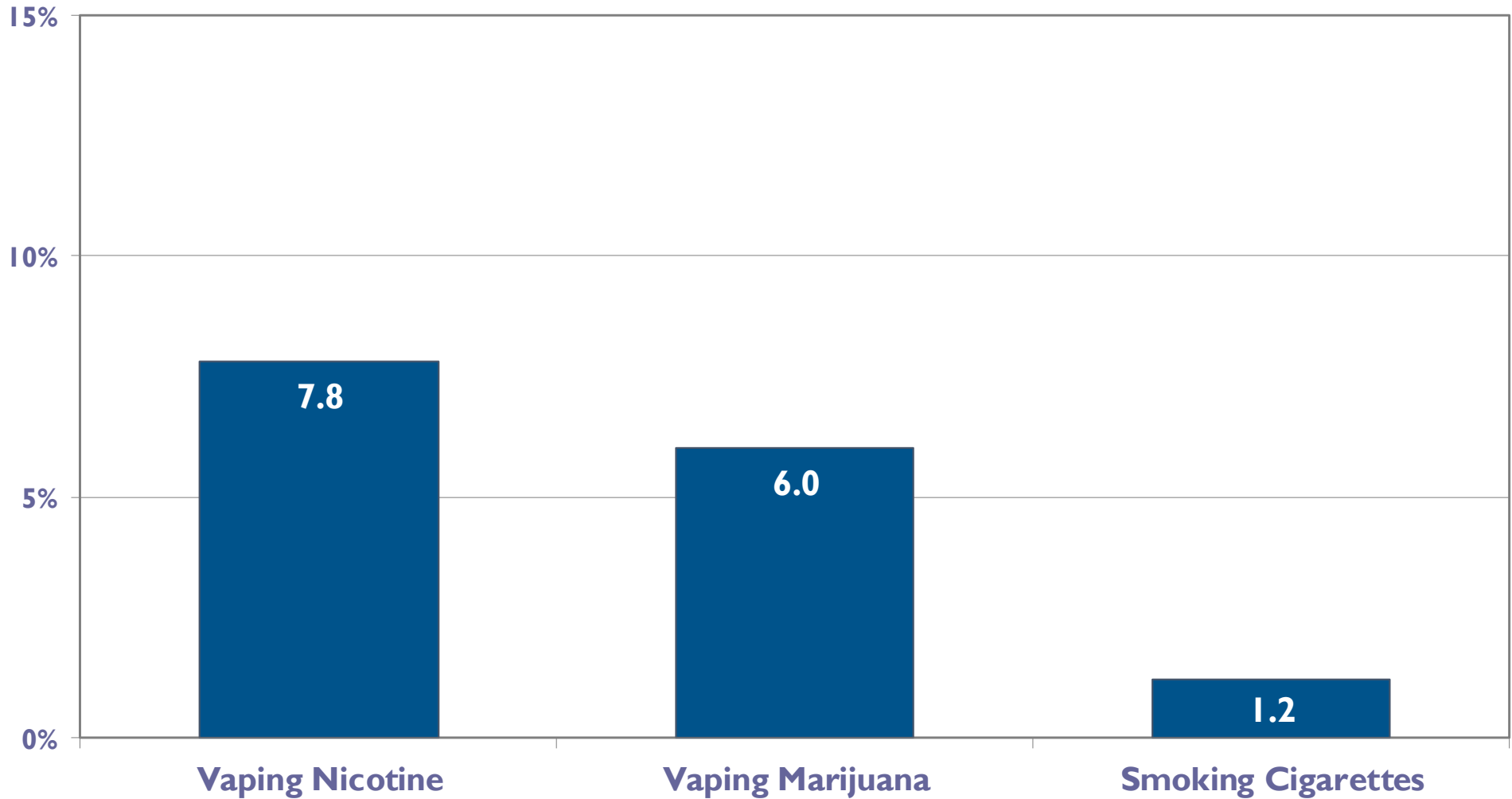


Vaping Trend Summary

- Among H.S. students, the vaping epidemic peaked in 2019, with rates for both vaping nicotine and vaping marijuana decreasing between 2019 and 2023.
 - *Nicotine vaping: 7.7 percentage point decline*
 - *Marijuana vaping: 3.9 percentage point decline*
- Among M.S. students, past-30-day vaping rates showed less change between 2019 and 2023.
 - *Nicotine vaping: 0.5 percentage point decline*
 - *Marijuana vaping: no change*
- While national vaping rates began to increase again in 2022, Florida vaping rates continued to decline.

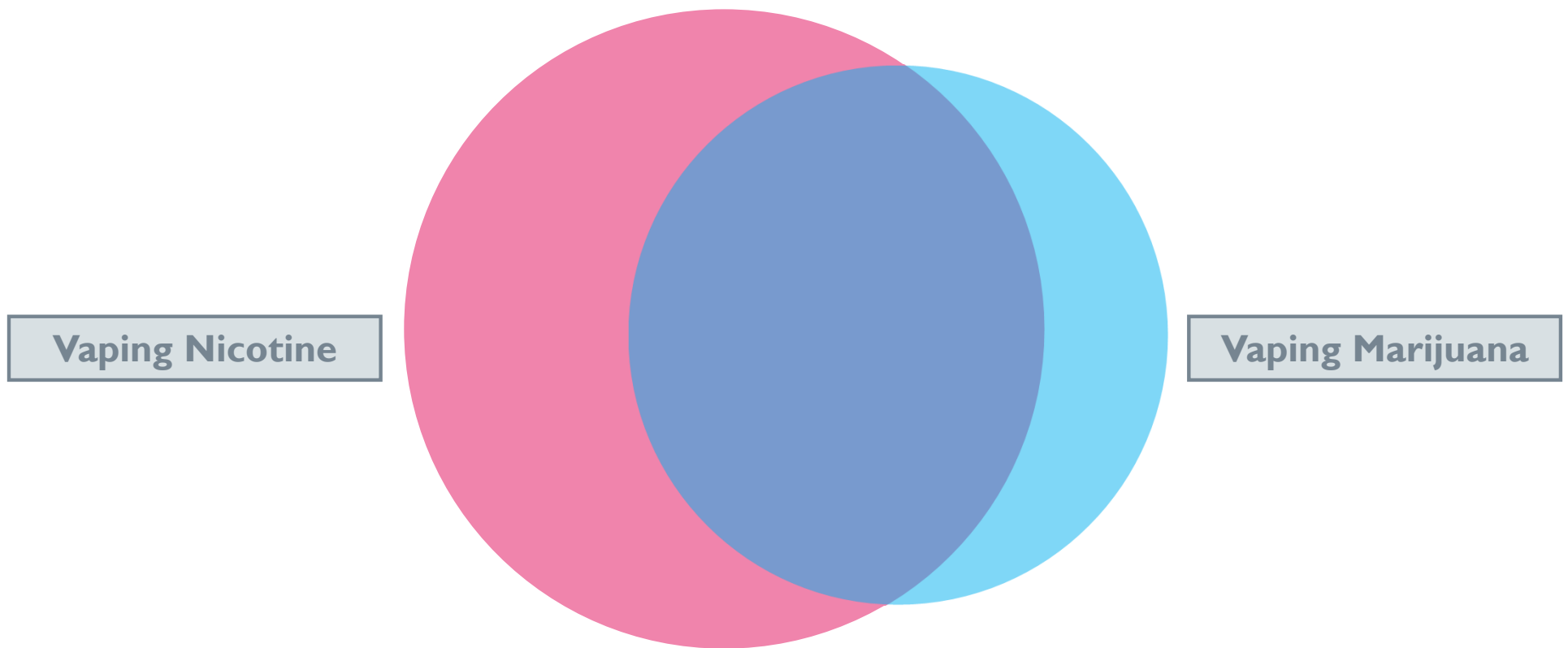
Vaping and Cigarette Use

Past-30-Day Prevalence, Middle School and High School



Vaping Nicotine and Vaping Marijuana

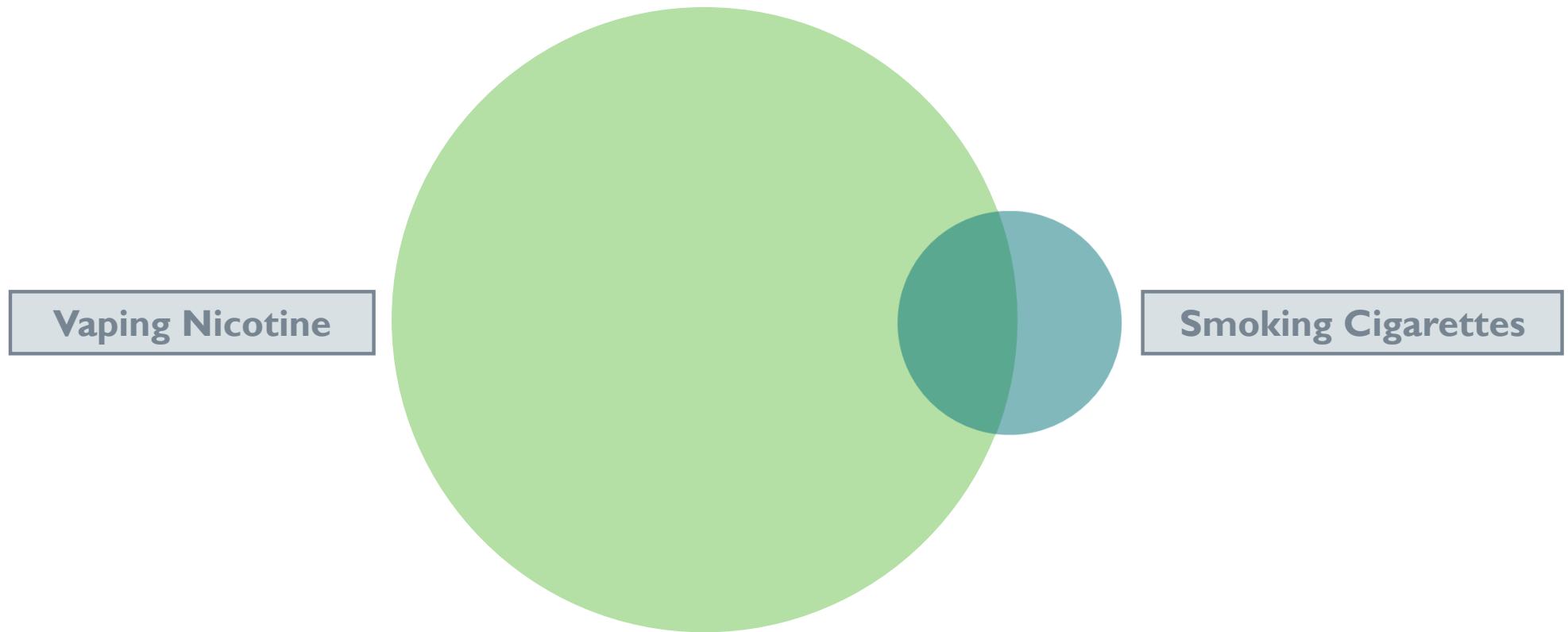
Past-30-Day Prevalence



51.3% of current nicotine vapers are vaping marijuana.
66.1% of current marijuana vapers are vaping nicotine.

Vaping Nicotine and Smoking Cigarettes

Past-30-Day Prevalence



7.1% of current nicotine vapers also smoke cigarettes.
47.5% of current smokers also vape nicotine.

Vaping and Smoking

- There is a large overlap between vaping nicotine and vaping marijuana.
 - *About half (51.3%) of students who vape nicotine also vape marijuana.*
 - *About one-third (66.1%) of students who vape marijuana also vape nicotine.*
- Vaping nicotine is more than six times more prevalent than smoking cigarettes.
 - *Most (92.9%) of students who vape nicotine do not smoke cigarettes. Their vaping is independent of cigarette use.*

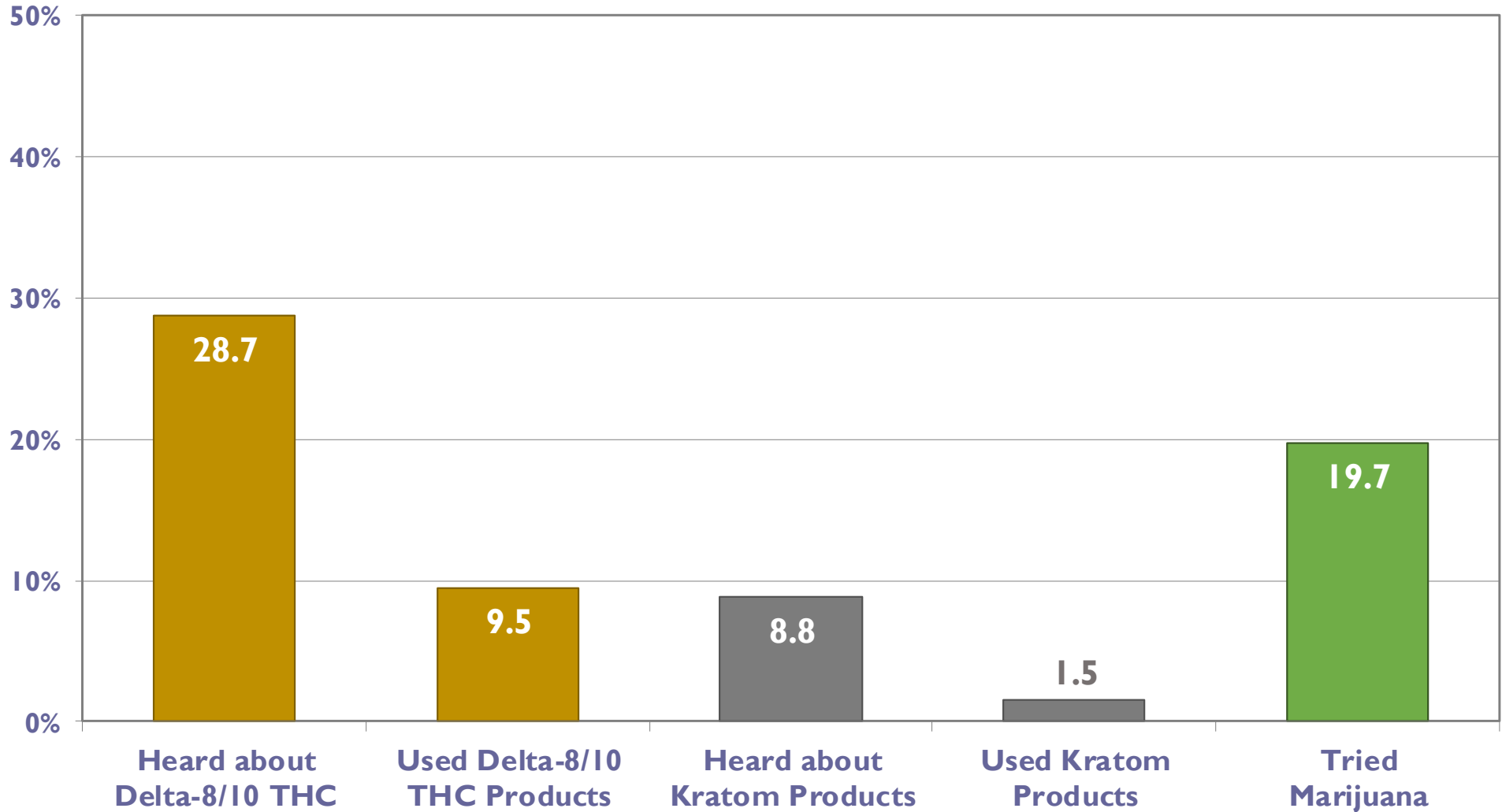
Delta-8/10 THC and Kratom

New Items Added to the 2023 High School Questionnaire



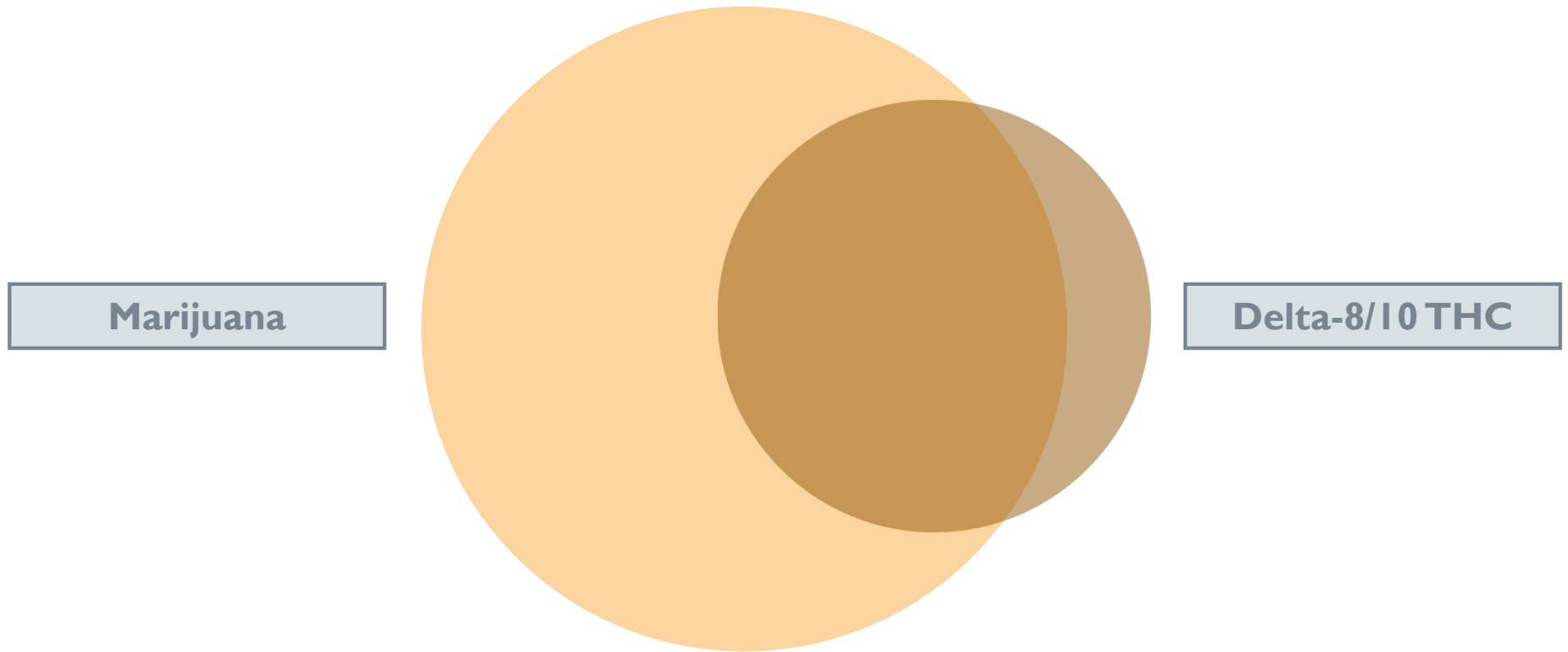
Delta-8/10 THC and Kratom

Lifetime Prevalence among High School Students



Marijuana and Delta-8/10 THC

Lifetime Prevalence Among High School Students



41.2% of HS students who have tried marijuana have also tried Delta-8/10 THC products.

86.1% of HS students who have tried Delta-8/10 THC products have also tried marijuana.

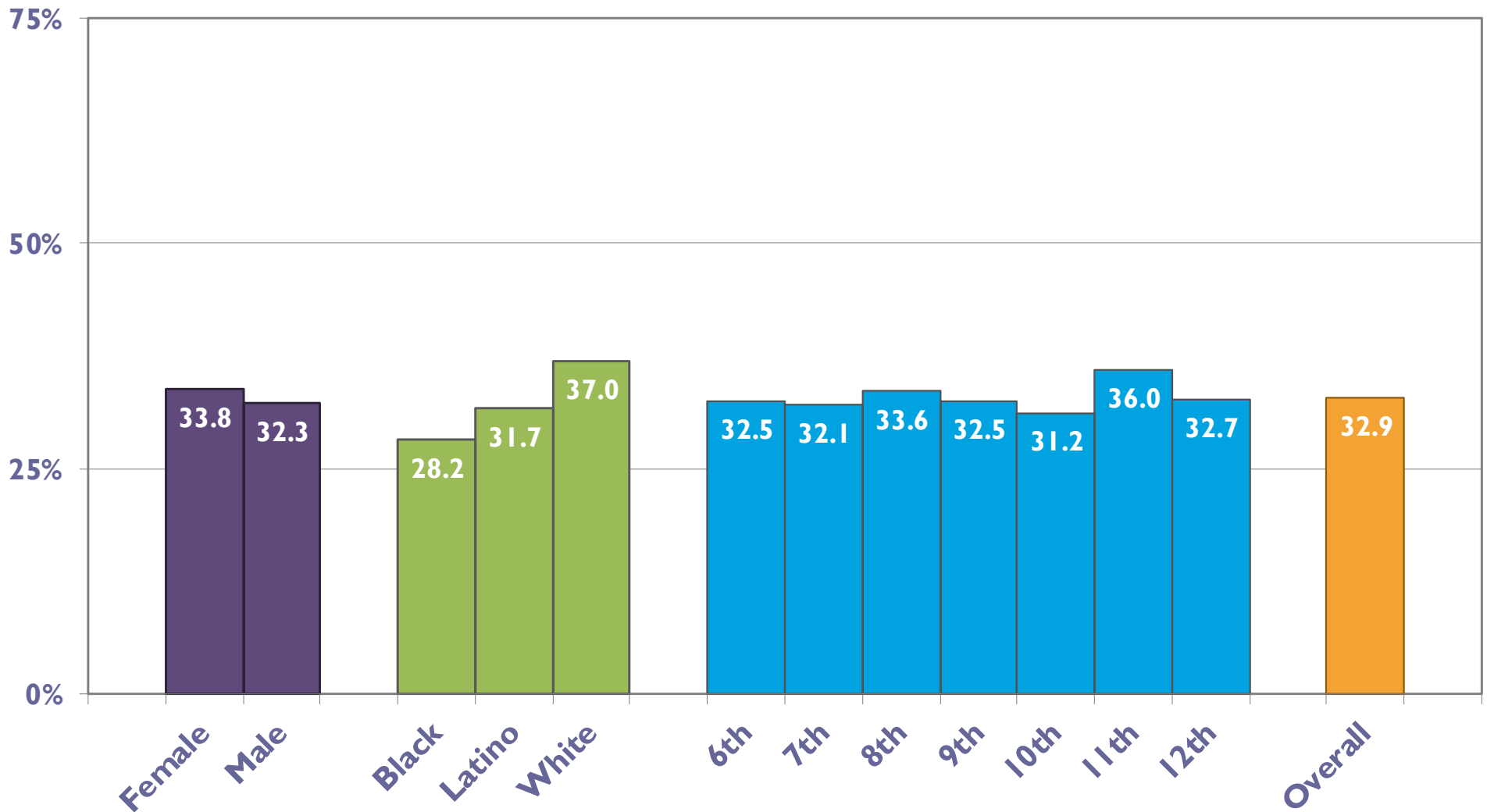
ONE
PILL CAN
KILL

988

SUICIDE
& CRISIS
LIFELINE

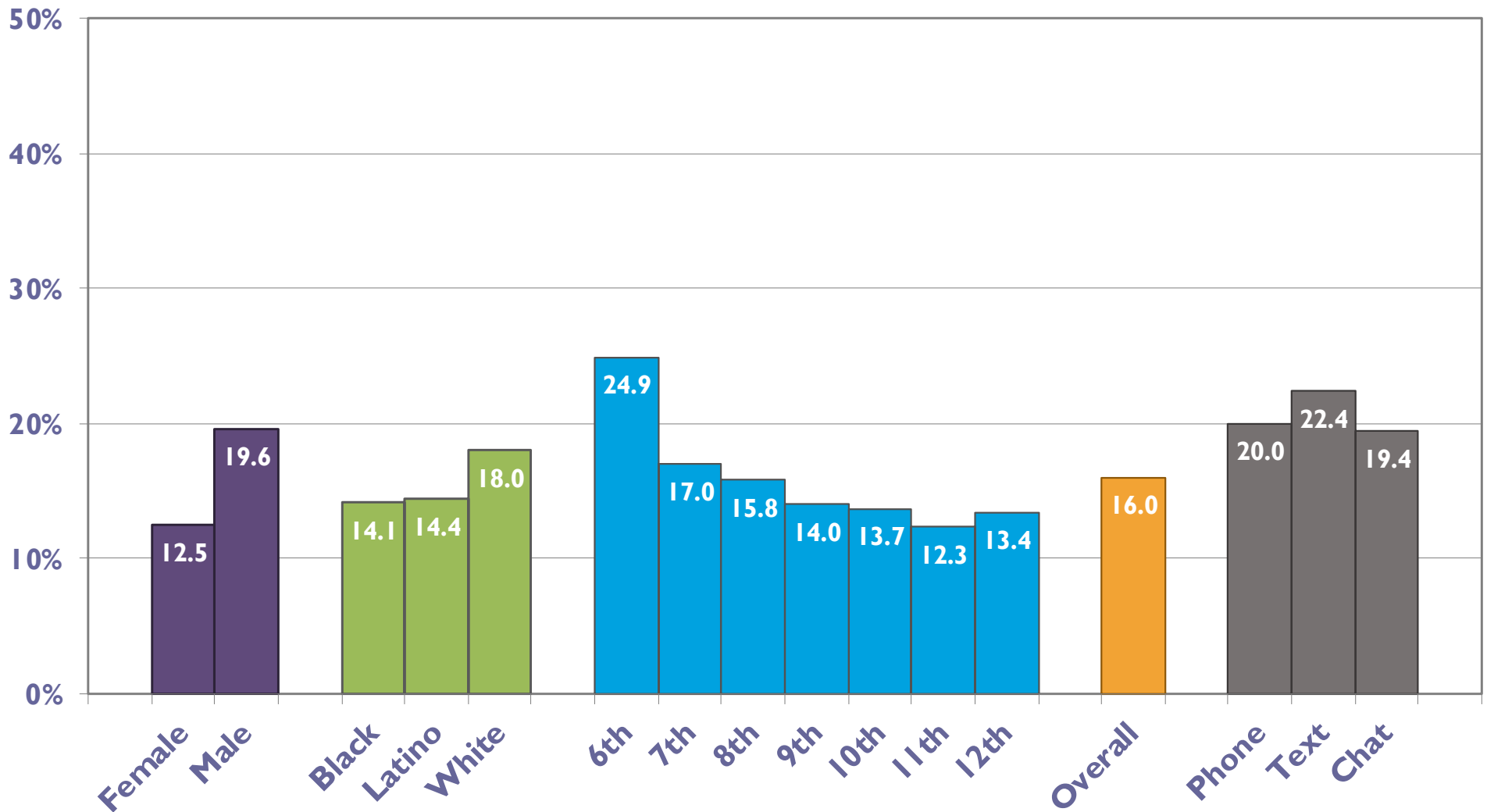
“One Pill Can Kill”

Percentage of Students Who Have Heard or Seen this Message



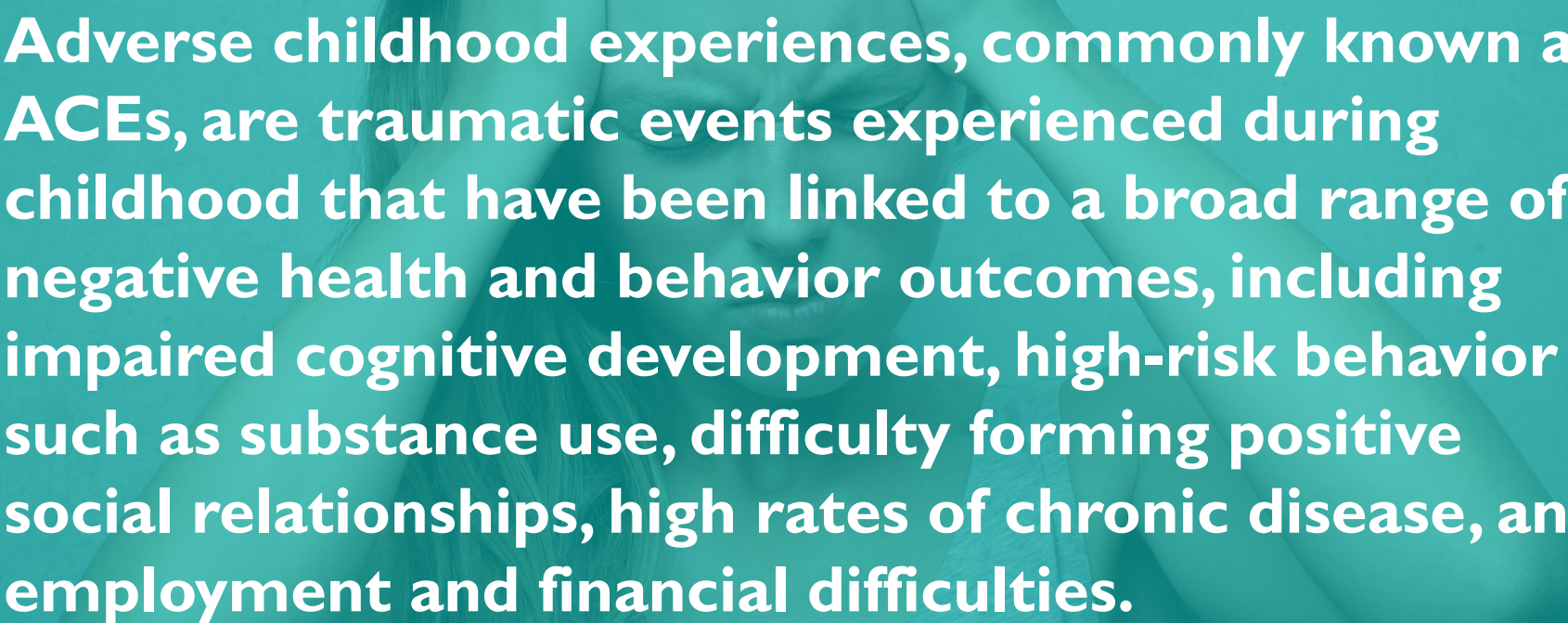
988 Crisis Counseling Line

Percentage of Students Who are “Very Likely” to Use





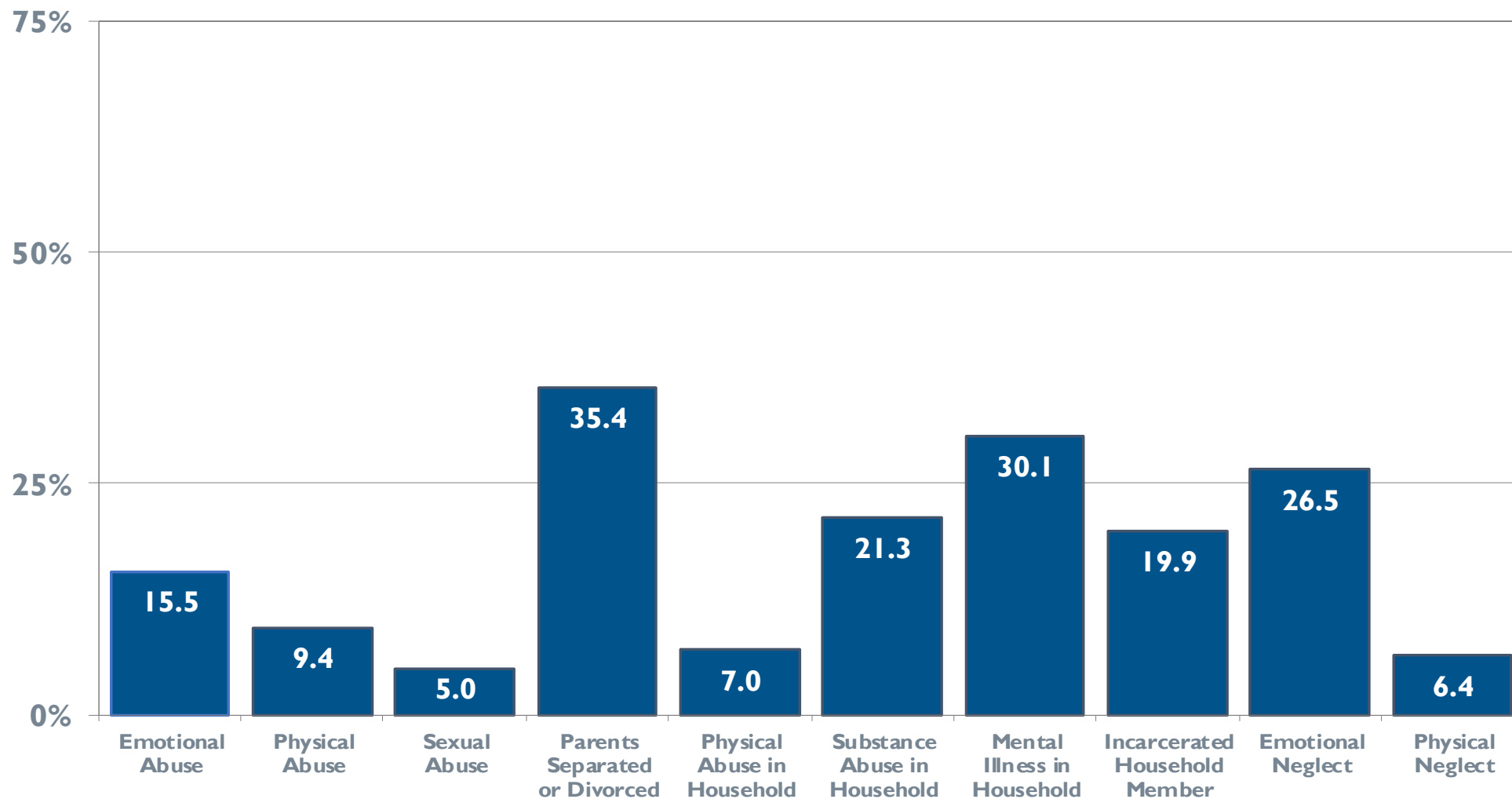
Adverse Childhood Experiences



Adverse childhood experiences, commonly known as ACEs, are traumatic events experienced during childhood that have been linked to a broad range of negative health and behavior outcomes, including impaired cognitive development, high-risk behavior such as substance use, difficulty forming positive social relationships, high rates of chronic disease, and employment and financial difficulties.

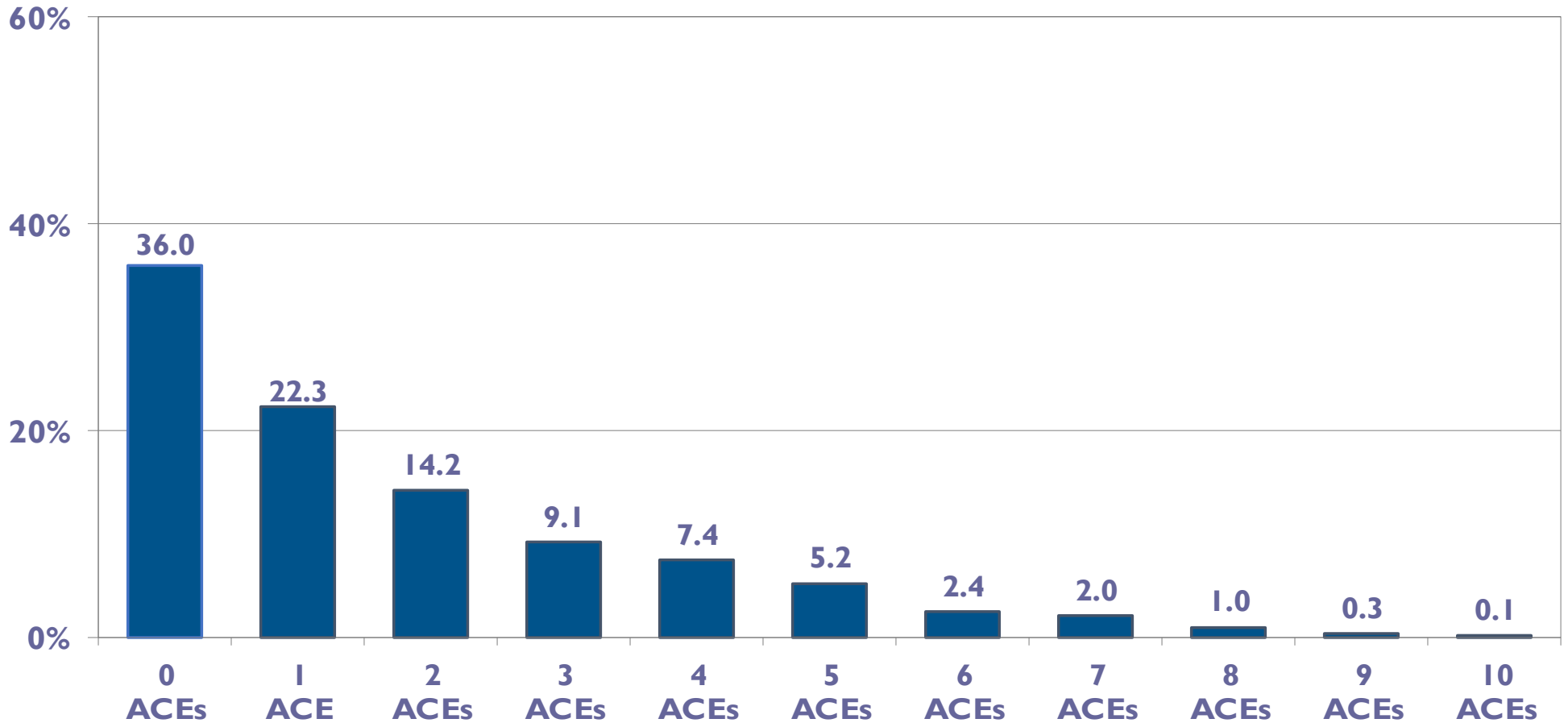
How Prevalent is Childhood Trauma?

ACEs Among High School Students

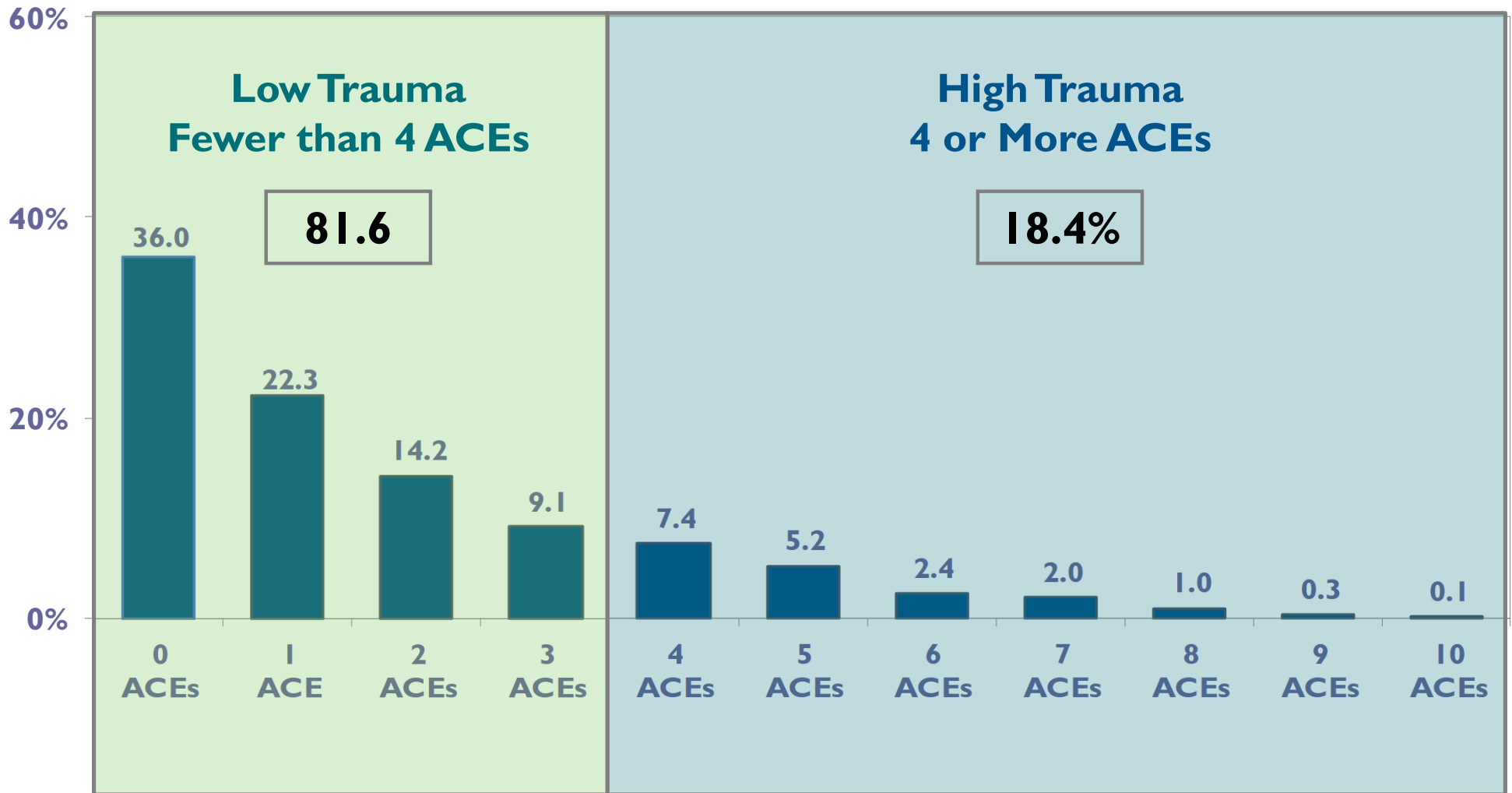


Number of Adverse Childhood Experiences

High School Students

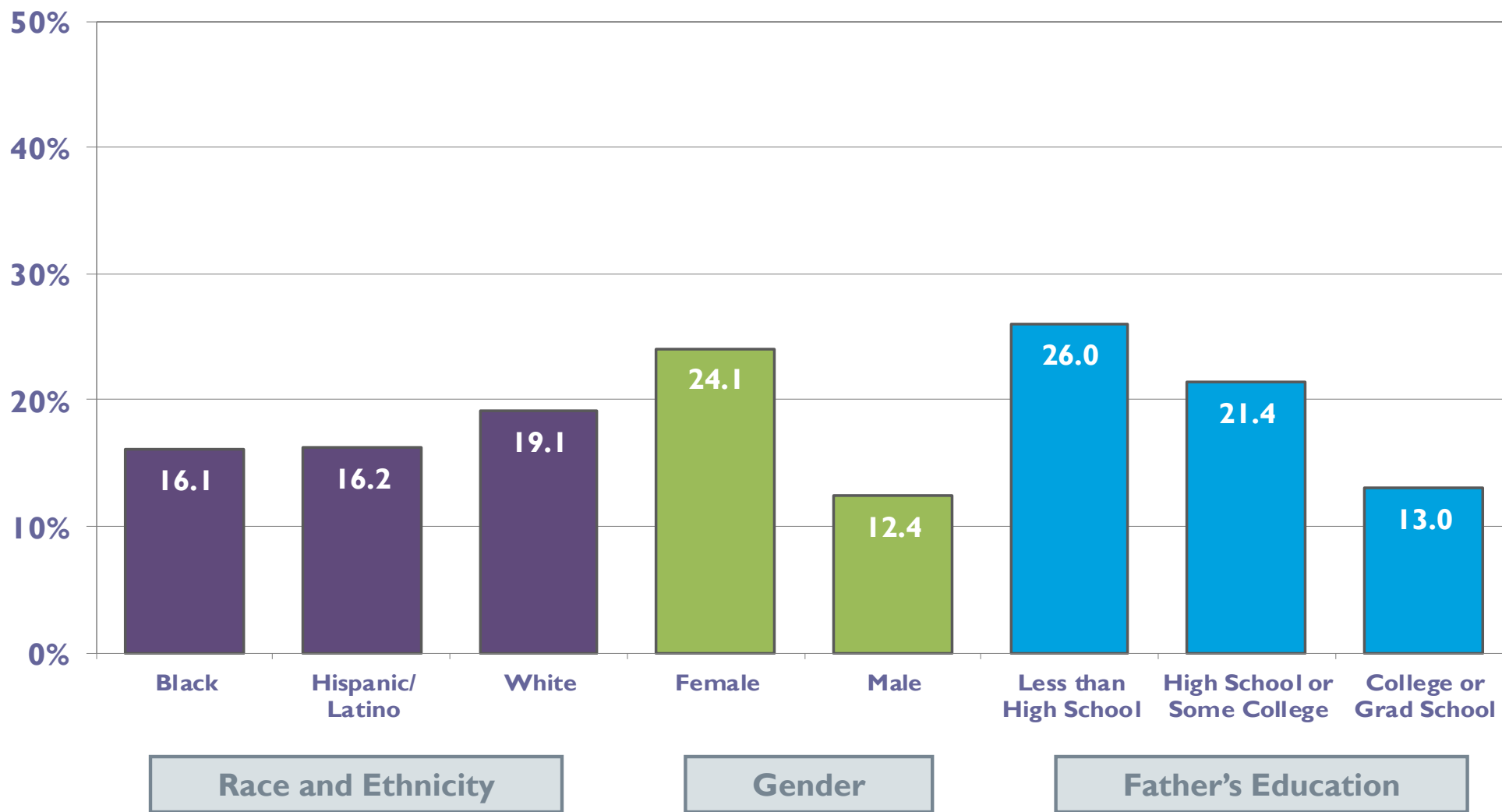


Low Trauma and High Trauma High School Students



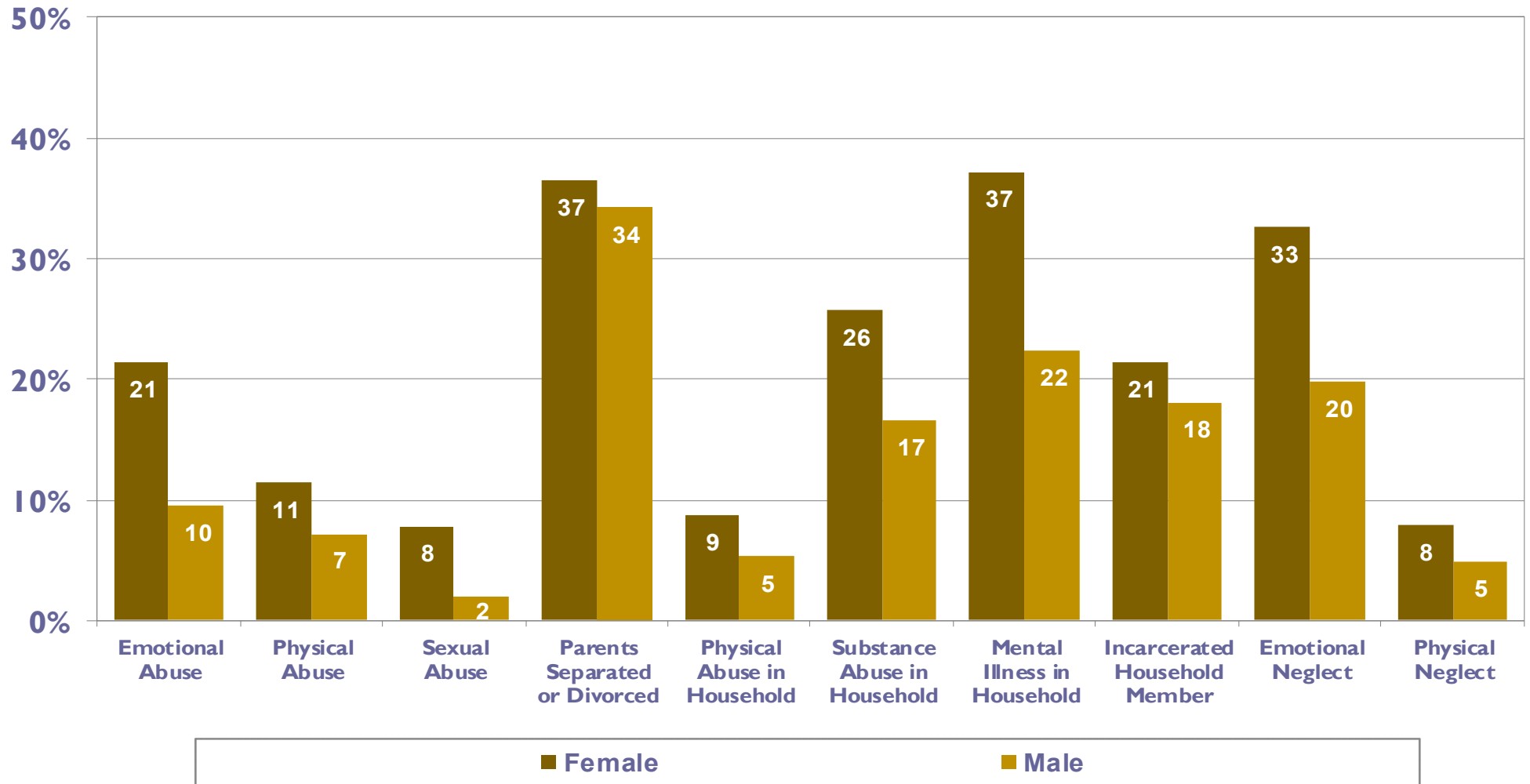
Which Students Report High Trauma?

Percentage Reporting 4 or More ACEs



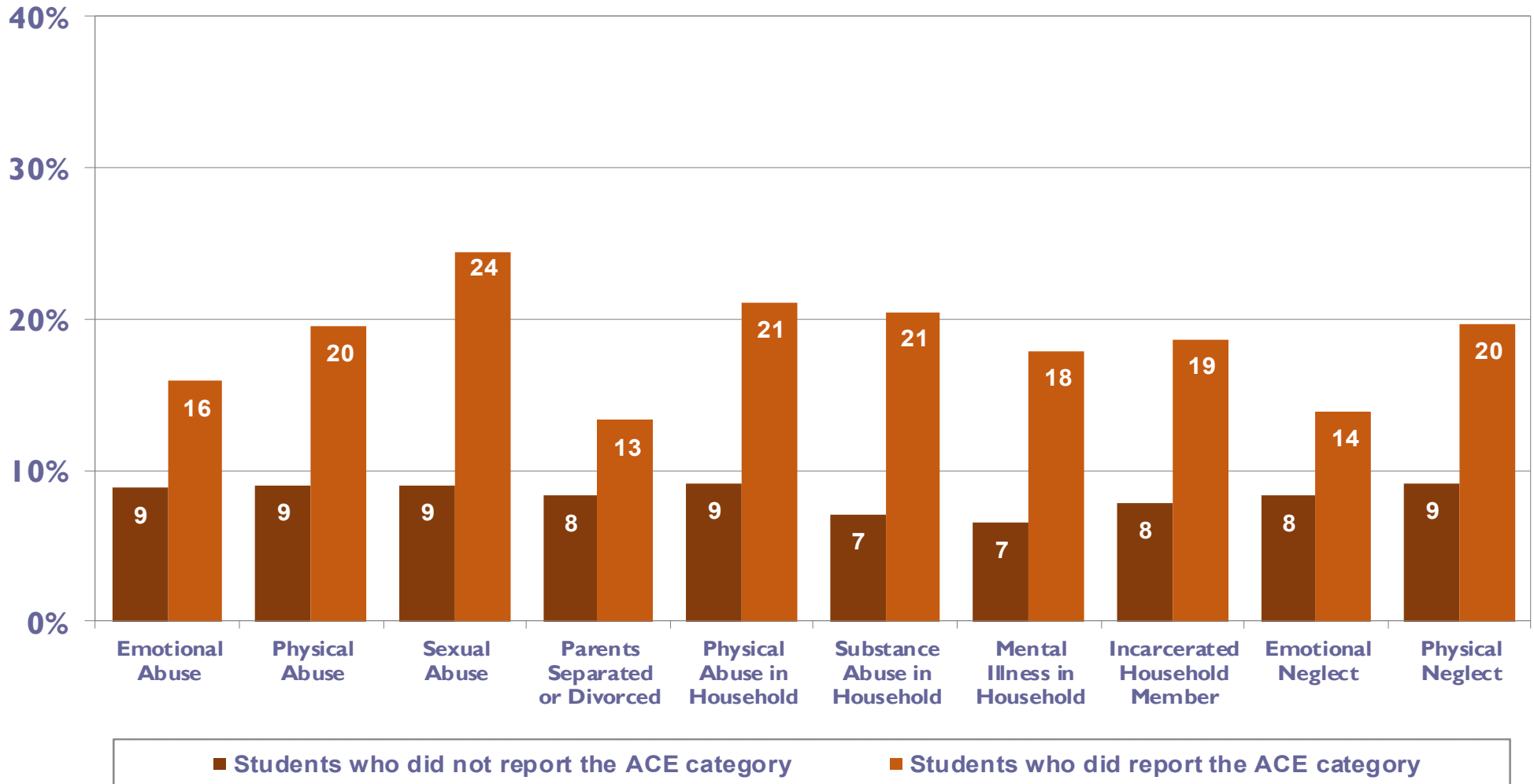
ACEs and Gender

High School Students



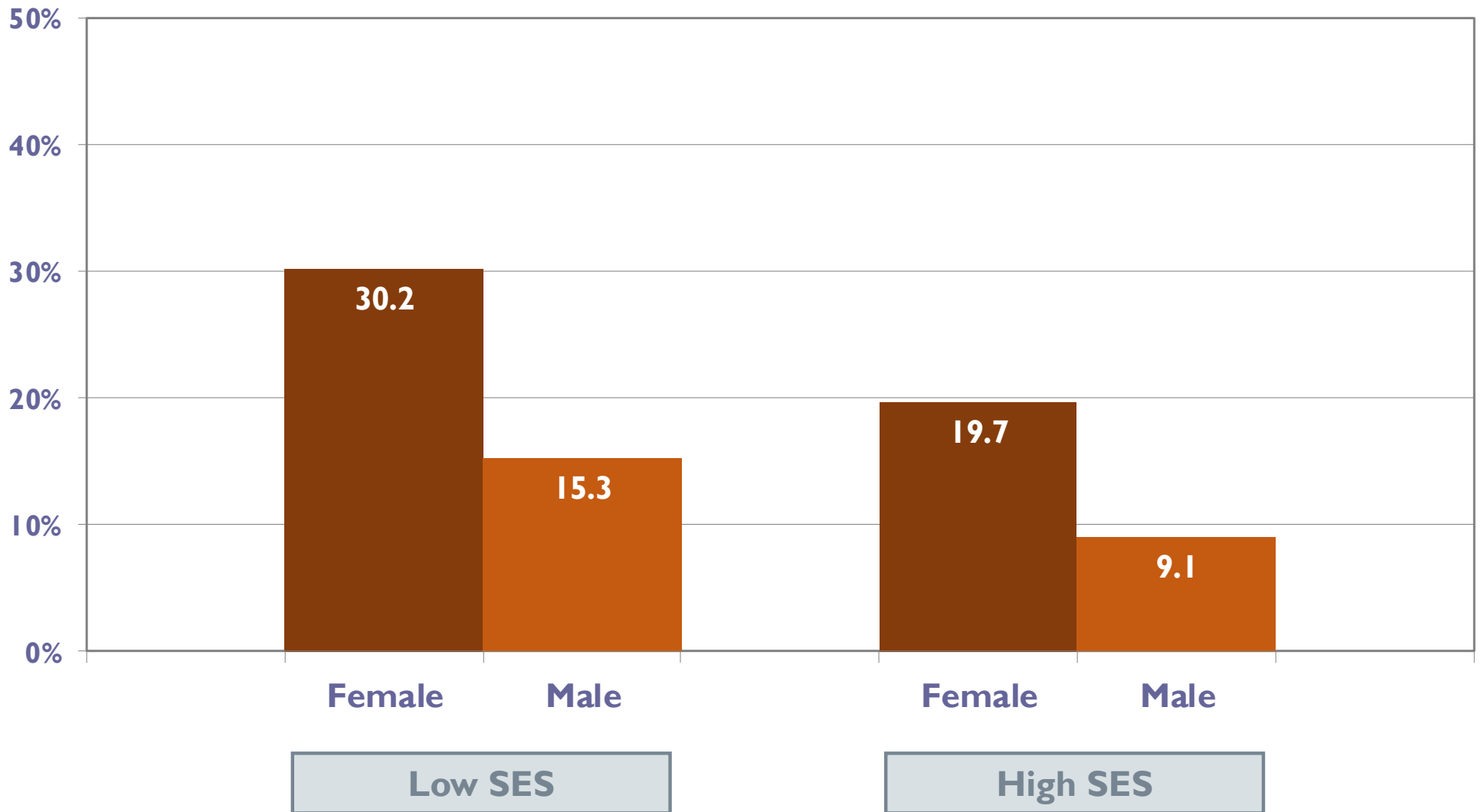
ACEs and Substance Use

Past-30-Day Marijuana Use Rates By ACE Responses



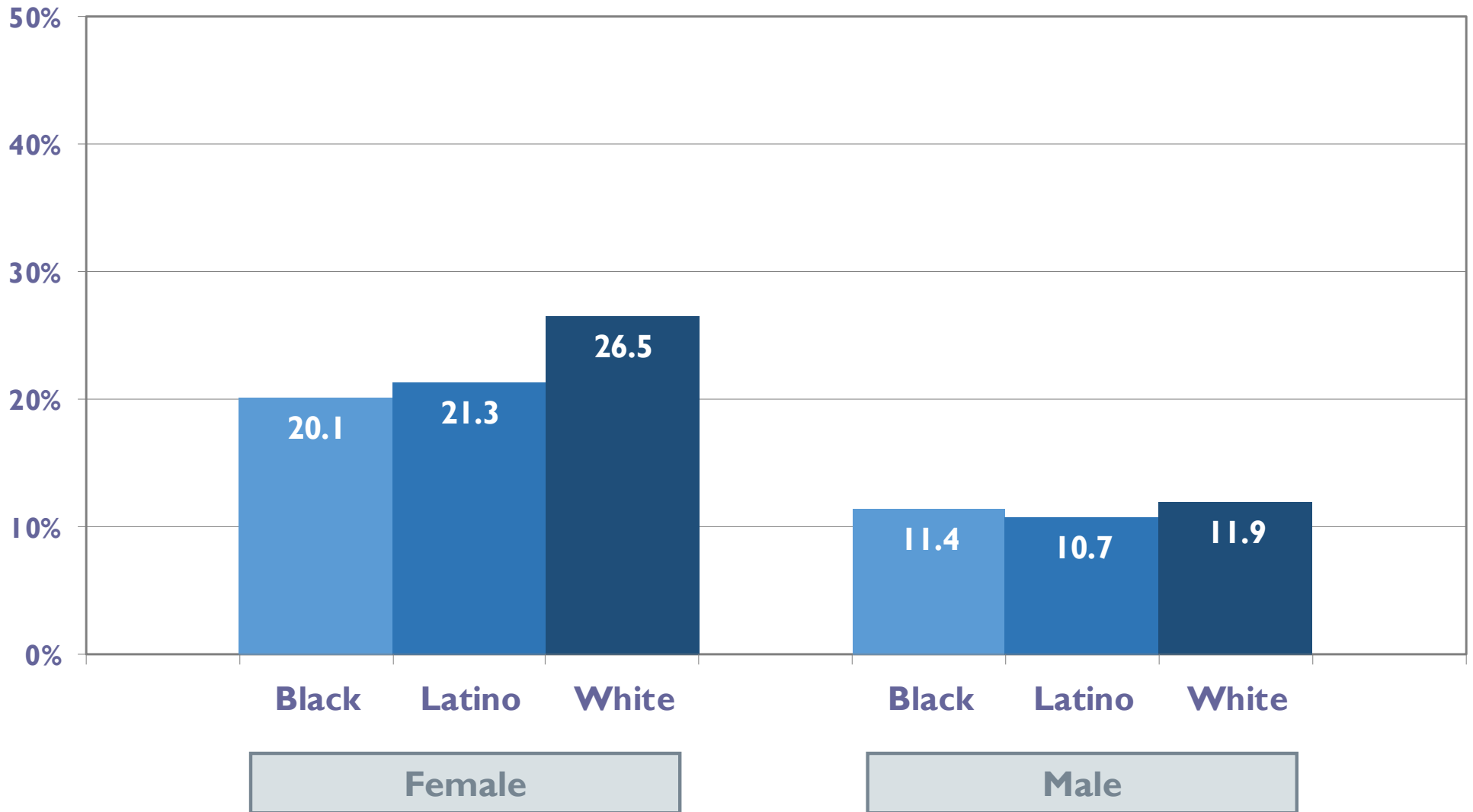
SES and Gender

Percentage Reporting 4 or More ACEs



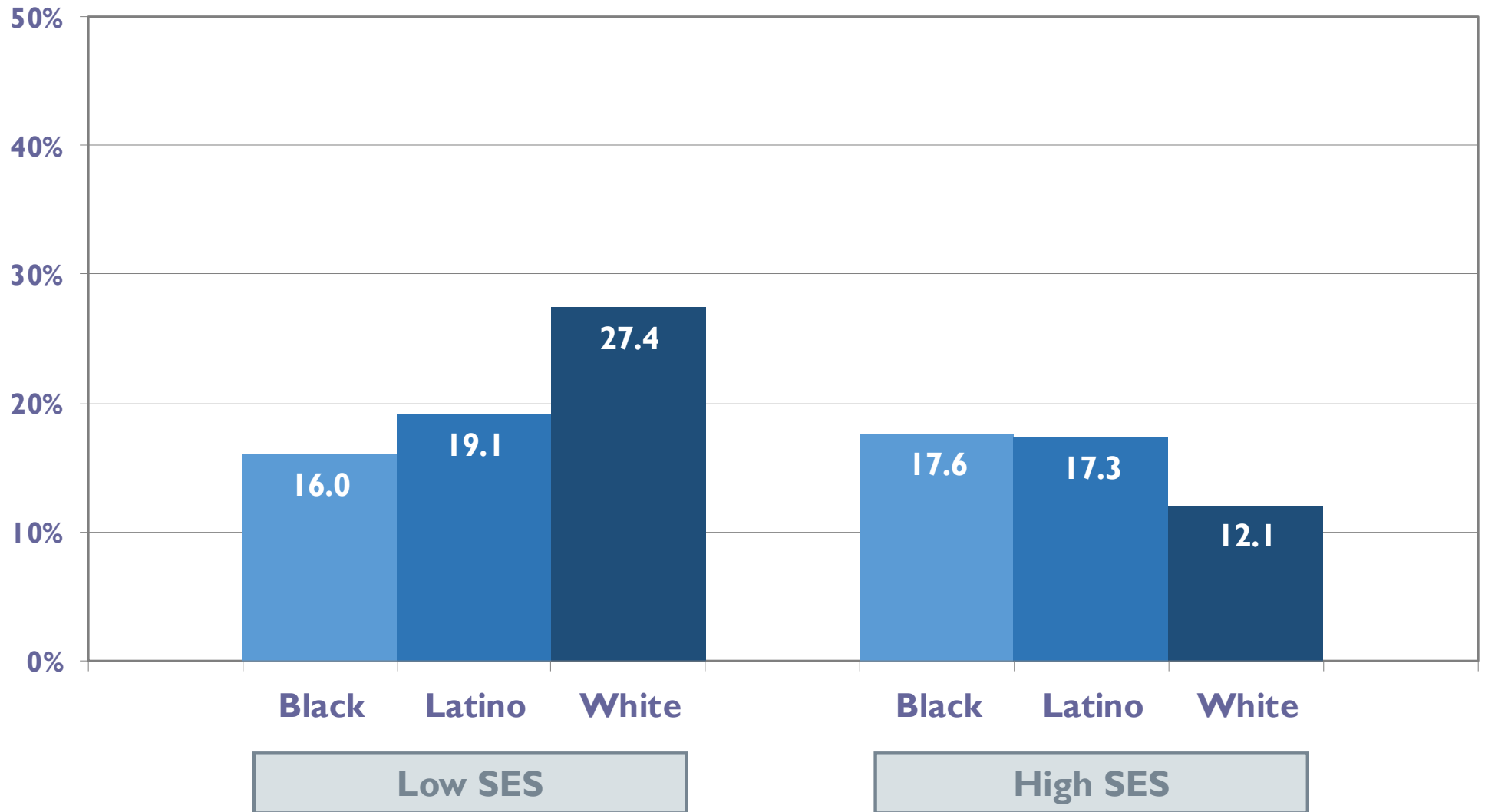
Gender and Race/Ethnicity

Percentage Reporting 4 or More ACEs



SES and Race/Ethnicity

Percentage Reporting 4 or More ACEs



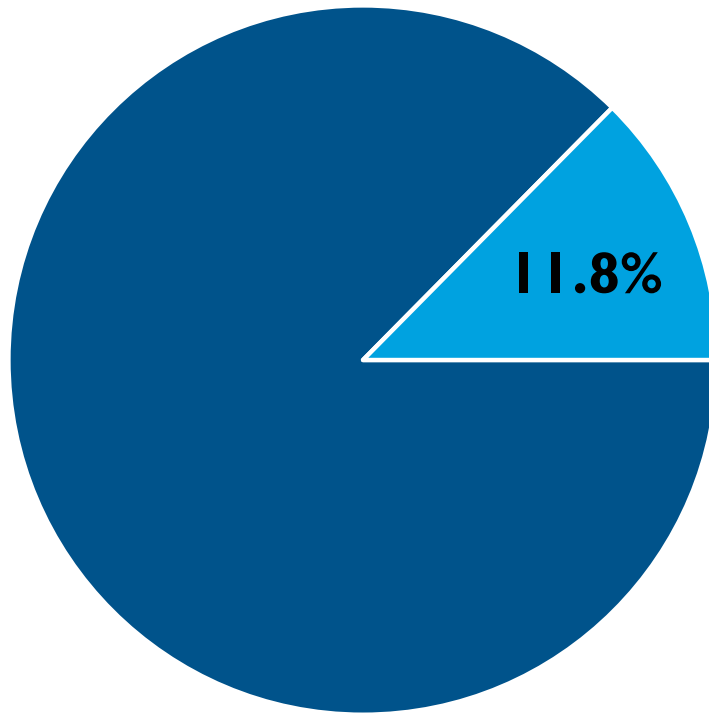
ACEs Summary

- 18.4% of Florida H.S. students report 4 or more adverse childhood experiences.
- Trauma is not evenly distributed across the population.
 - *White students, female students, and students from low SES families are more likely to report high levels of trauma.*
- Among adolescents, there is a strong correlation between trauma and negative health behavior outcomes.
 - *Students with higher levels of childhood trauma are more likely to report substance use.*

Military Families



How Many Florida Students are in Military Families?

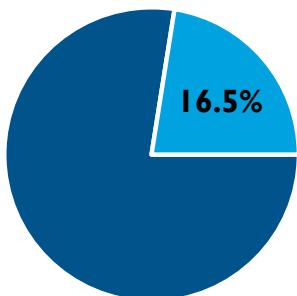


11.8% of surveyed Florida students have a parent, stepparent, or guardian who is currently serving in a branch of the U.S. military.

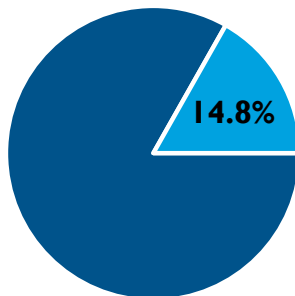
This equates to more than **170,000** children across the full population of Florida public school students in grades 6 through 12.

Children from Military Families

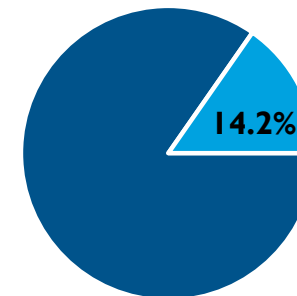
Race/Ethnicity and Age



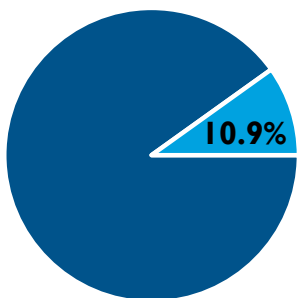
Multiple Ethnicity Students



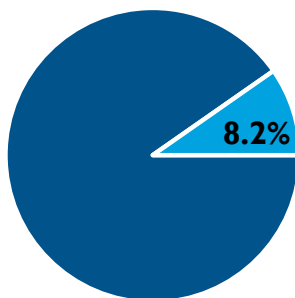
Black Students



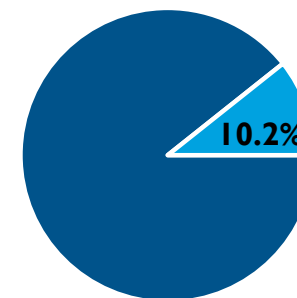
Middle School Students



White Students



Latino Students



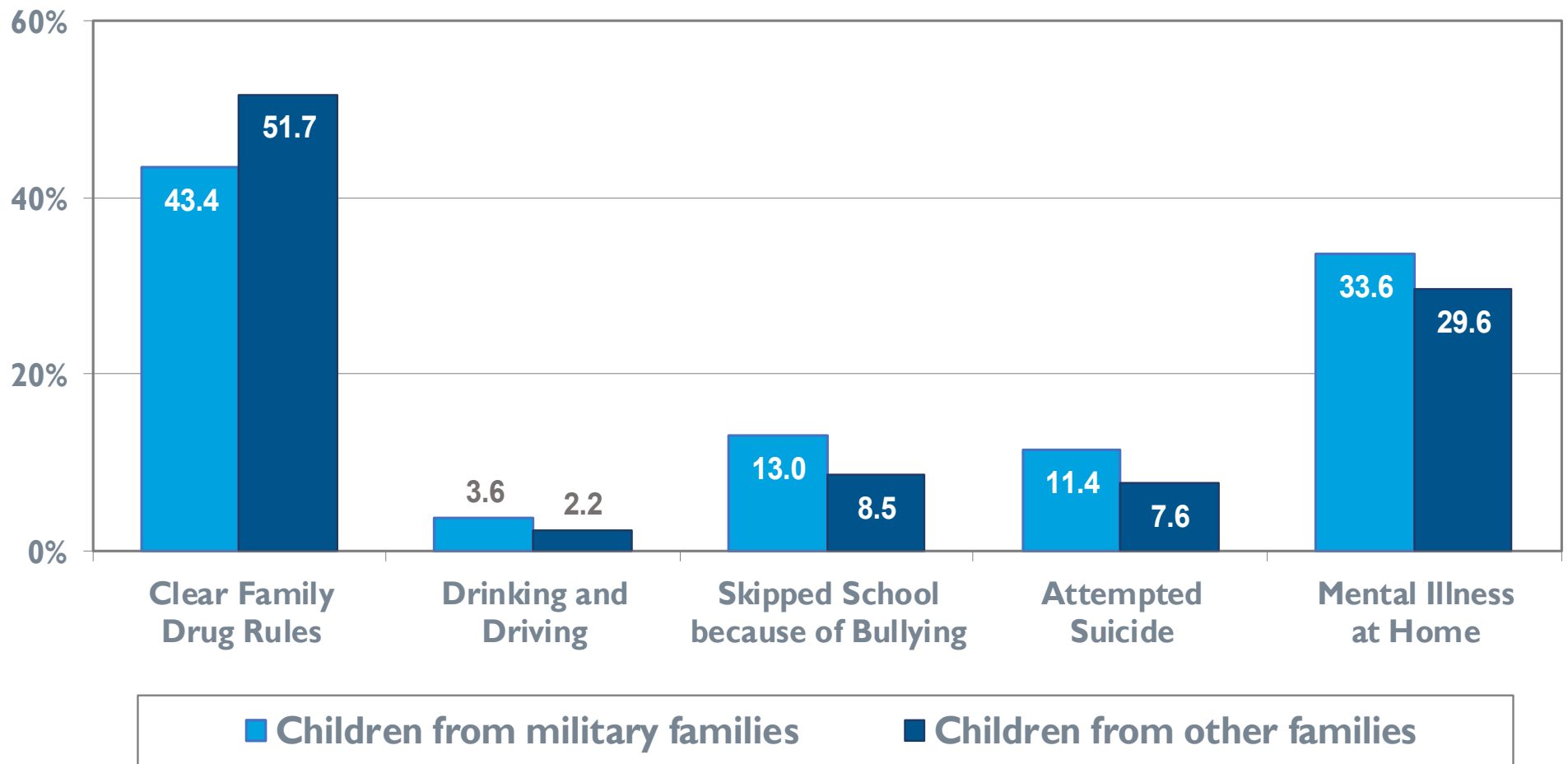
High School Students

Military Families

Other Families

Military Families Face Unique Challenges

Percentage Reporting Adverse Health Behaviors and Experiences





Thank you!

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Florida Youth Survey information/support

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