



WORTHINGTON COMMUNITY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF PPAAUS 2009 RESULTS

Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, and Use Survey

Student Perspectives on the Use of Alcohol, Tobacco & Other Drugs and Violence

Funding Partners



US Dept. of Health & Human
Services, Substance Abuse &
Mental Health Service
Administration, Center
Substance Abuse Prevention

Prepared by Diagnostics Plus, State College, Pennsylvania
February 2009

Executive Summary of the 2009 PPAAUS

WORTHINGTON SCHOOLS

INTRODUCTION

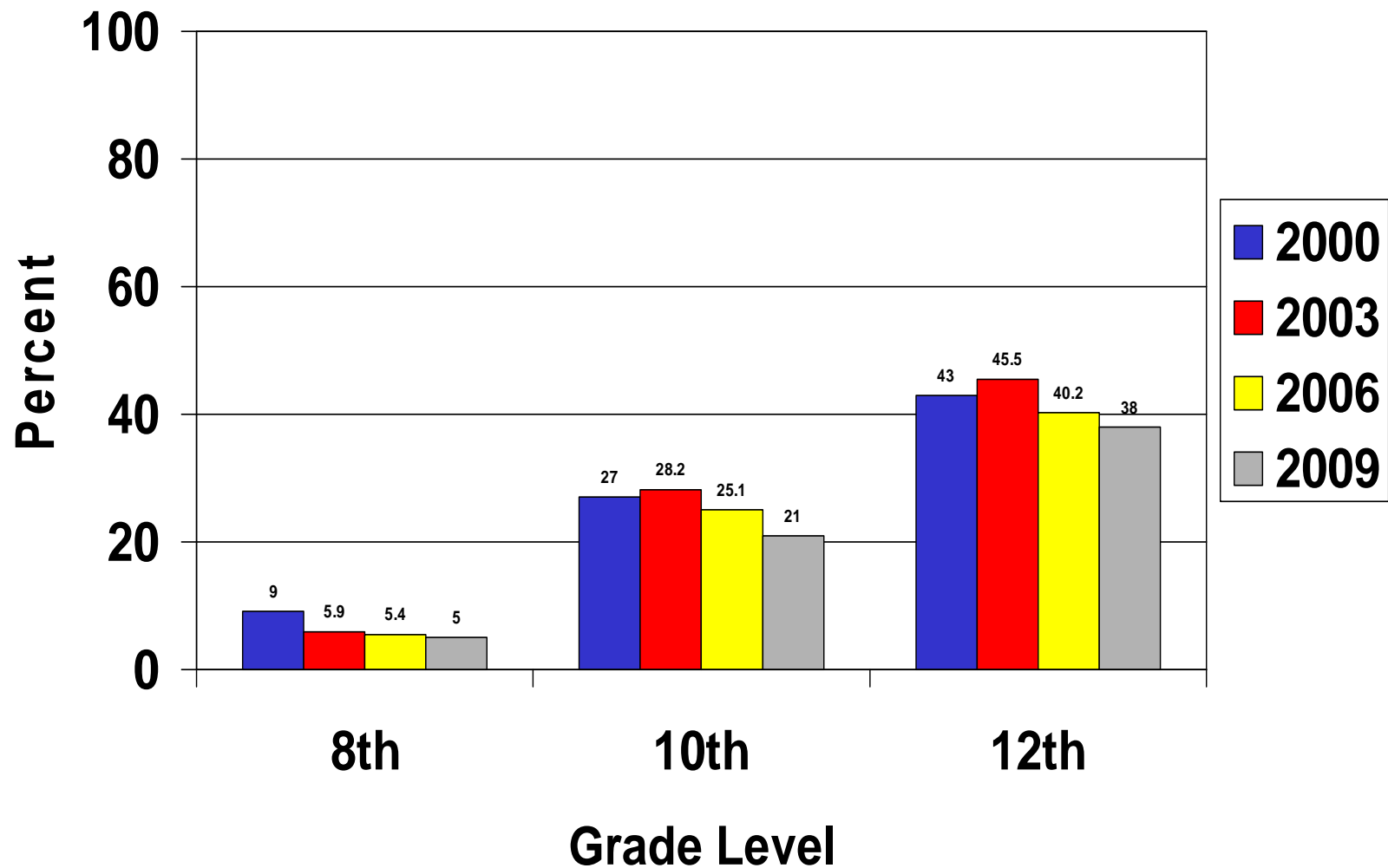
- Research on the use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs has consistently shown that the use of these substances by young people is correlated with a wide range of negative behaviors including low academic performance. Research data continues to show that for students who use alcohol and/or drugs, it occurs in the community 96% of the time when there is little supervision.
- In 1988, the Safe and Drug-Free Schools Consortium, a program of the Educational Council, initiated a needs assessment of students in grades six through twelve.
- Every three years, this assessment is repeated; 2009 was the eighth occasion of the survey, and 1,860 students from Worthington City Schools were included in the Primary Prevention Awareness, Attitude, and Use Survey. In the metro area, 32,000 students took the survey.
- This summary contains highlights of the report.

Purpose of the PPAAUS Assessment:

- to provide information that can be used to guide prevention and intervention programs
- to provide an overall evaluation of the effectiveness of these programs
- Many items and topics in PPAAUS have remained the same over the years to allow the Consortium to track trends in usage, behavior and attitudes.
- The analyses of PPAAUS results also identify the predictors of drug use which can then be used to provide direction to prevention efforts.
- PPAAUS data maintains a very good internal and external reliability with reliability coefficients of .7808. (Chronbach Alpha)

Regular Use of Alcohol

Monthly or More Often Use



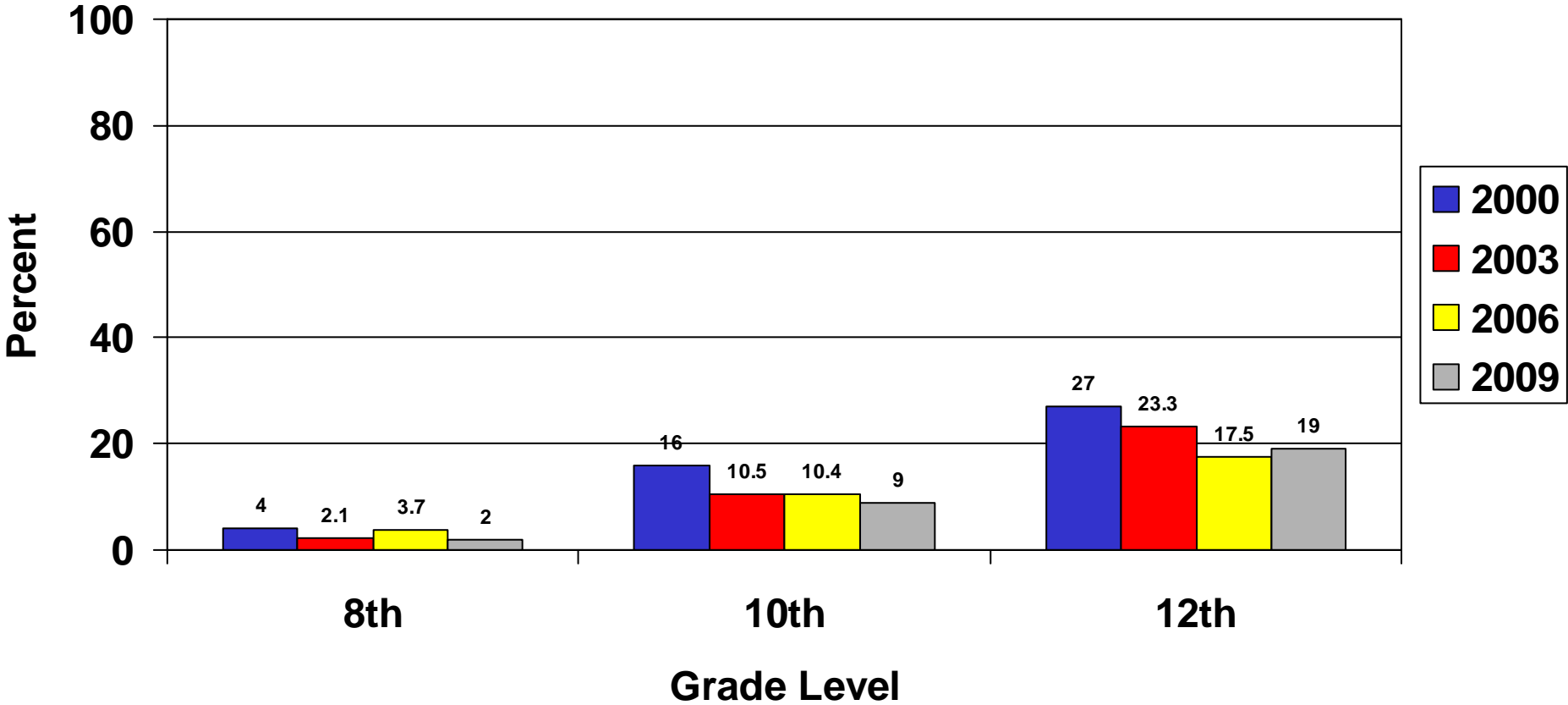
SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS

Alcohol

- 5% of eighth graders, 20% of tenth graders, and 38% of twelfth graders drank regularly (at least once a month). This compares to the greater metro area at 8%, 21%, and 37% respectively.
- The average age of first use of alcohol for middle school students was 11.9 and for high school students, 14.0. This is comparable to metro data.
- 71% of eighth graders, 52% of tenth graders, and 37% of twelfth graders had *never* drunk alcohol.
- **Trends** – In Worthington, alcohol use has declined over the past 9 years, bringing it to the lowest levels since 1988.

Regular Use of Cigarettes

Monthly or More Often Use

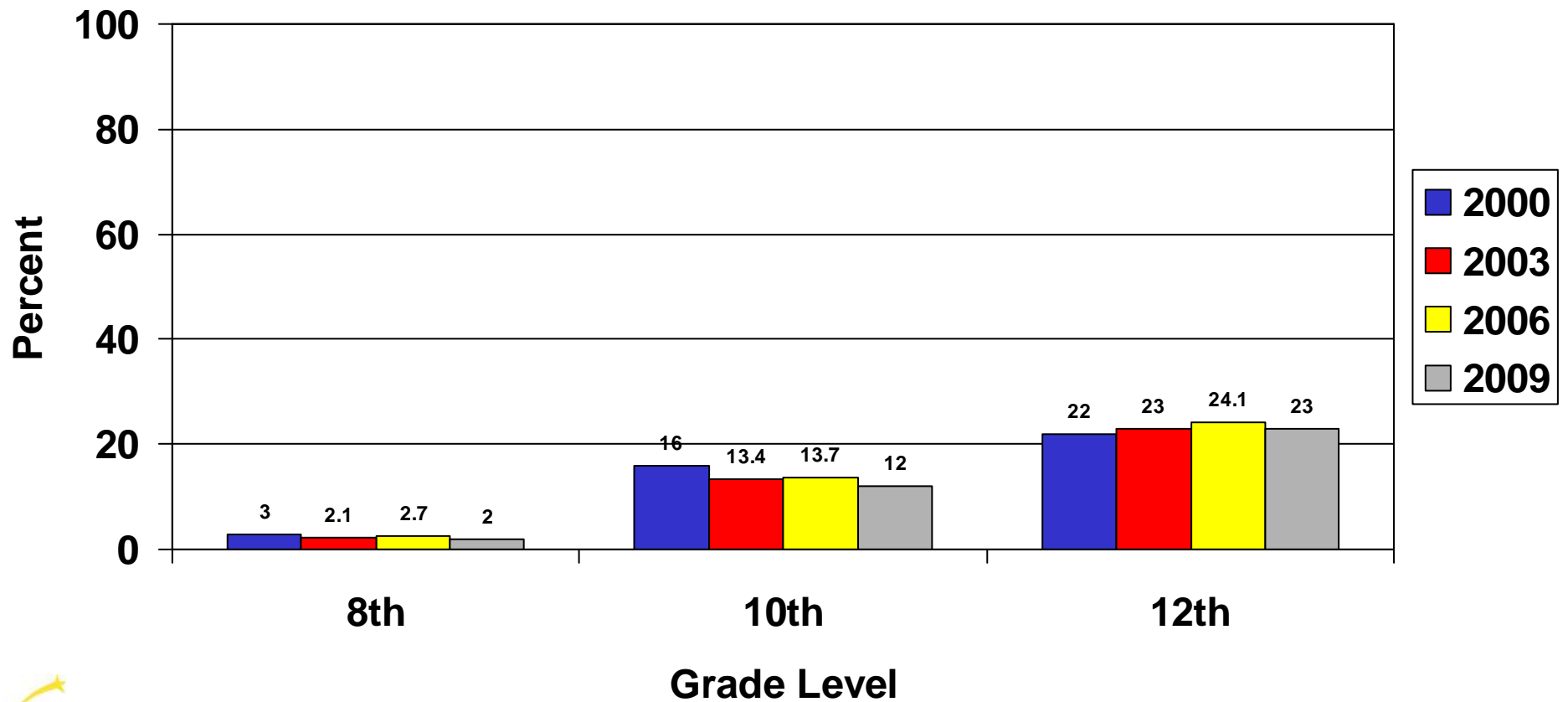


Tobacco

- 2% of eighth graders, 9% of tenth graders, and 19% of twelfth graders reported regular use of cigarettes (monthly or more often use).
- 4% of tenth graders and 8% of twelfth graders reported smoking cigarettes daily.
- The average first use of cigarettes was 14 years.
- **Trends** – In the metro area and Worthington after seeing increases in cigarette use in 1994 and 1997, use in 2009 continued a downward trend that began in 2000. However, we are seeing a slight increase in use among twelfth graders in Worthington.

Regular Use of Marijuana

Monthly or More Often Use



Marijuana

- 2% of eighth graders, 12% of tenth graders, and 23% of twelfth graders smoke marijuana once a month or more.
- **Trends** – In Worthington, after a large increase in use from 1991 to 1994 in all grades, marijuana use has remained fairly stable. In eighth and tenth grades, the data shows a slight decline and in twelfth grade, we see an up and down pattern.

Prescription Drugs

- With hundreds of web sites available to buy prescription drugs, students were asked if they would be willing to use someone else's prescription drugs to get high. The following percentages were reported that students would not use:
8th grade – 94.6% 10th grade – 87.8% 12 grade – 77.4%

Over the Counter Drugs

- The following percentages were reported that students would not use:
8th grade – 92% 10th grade – 89% 12th grade – 84%

Performance Enhancers (glutamine, creatine)

- 98.6% of middle school students and 94% of high school students have never used performance enhancers.

Designer or Club Drugs (ecstasy, XTC, special k, GHB)

- The following percentages of students reported they have never used club drugs:
8th grade – 99.4% 10th grade – 96.8% 12th grade – 93%

Heroin

- The following percentages of students reported they have never used heroin:
8th grade – 99% 10th grade – 99.5% 12th grade – 95.8%

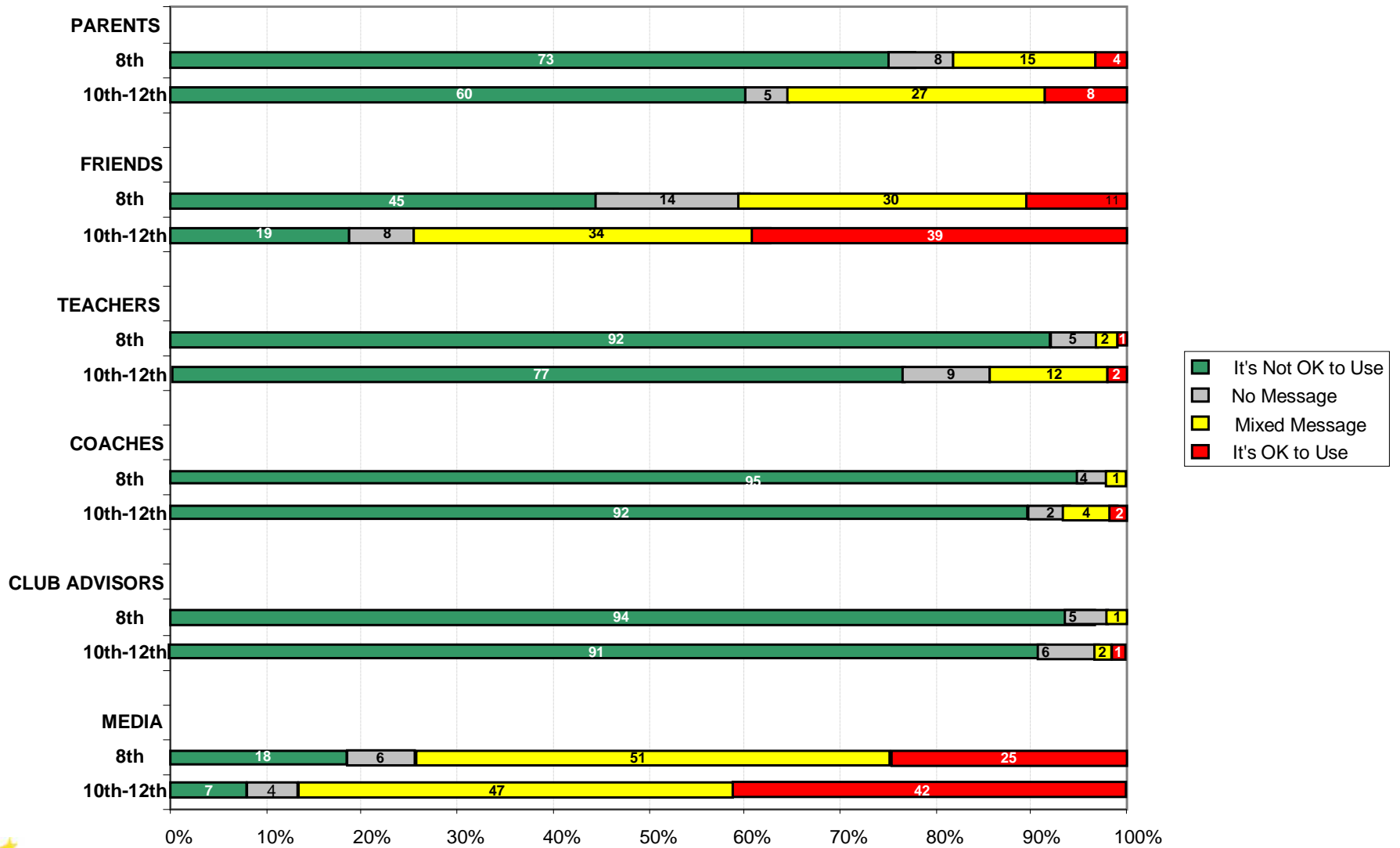
Hallucinogens (acid, trip, shrooms)

- The following percentages of students reported they have never used hallucinogens:
8th grade – 99% 10th grade – 95.8% 12th grade – 89%

Messages about Drinking

- Coaches, club advisors, teachers and parents were most successful at conveying *"It's not OK to drink."*
- Teachers - An average of 92% of eighth graders and 77% of high school students felt that teachers gave them the message that drinking is not acceptable. (Little change since 2006 data.)
- Coaches - 94.5% of eighth graders and 92% of 10th and 12th grade students who had a coach thought they received a "It's Not OK to Drink" message. (Little change since 2006 data.)
- Parents - 73% of eighth grade students and 60% of high school students thought that parents disapproved of drinking alcohol. This is slightly lower than 2006 data.
- Friends - 45% of eighth graders and 18.5% of tenth and twelfth graders indicated that the message from friends was "It's Not OK to drink."
- Media – All students perceived from media a low percentage of message of that *"It's Not OK to drink."*

Messages About the Use of Alcohol



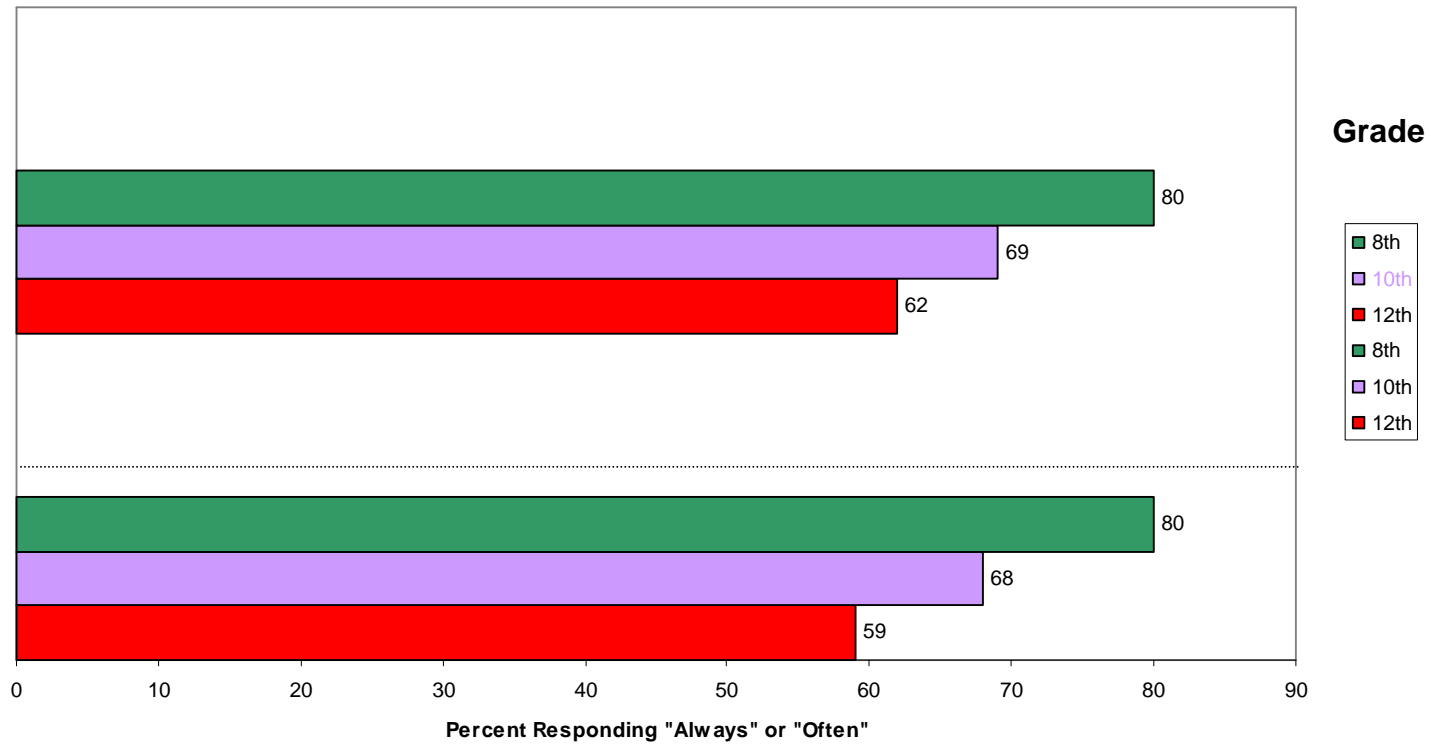
For club advisors and coaches, percentages are based on ONLY those students who participated in activities or sports.

Sources of Prevention Skills

- Students report that they are most influenced in their use of ATOD use, decision making and assertiveness by parents. They are much less likely to use ATOD when they have "strong family values against use."

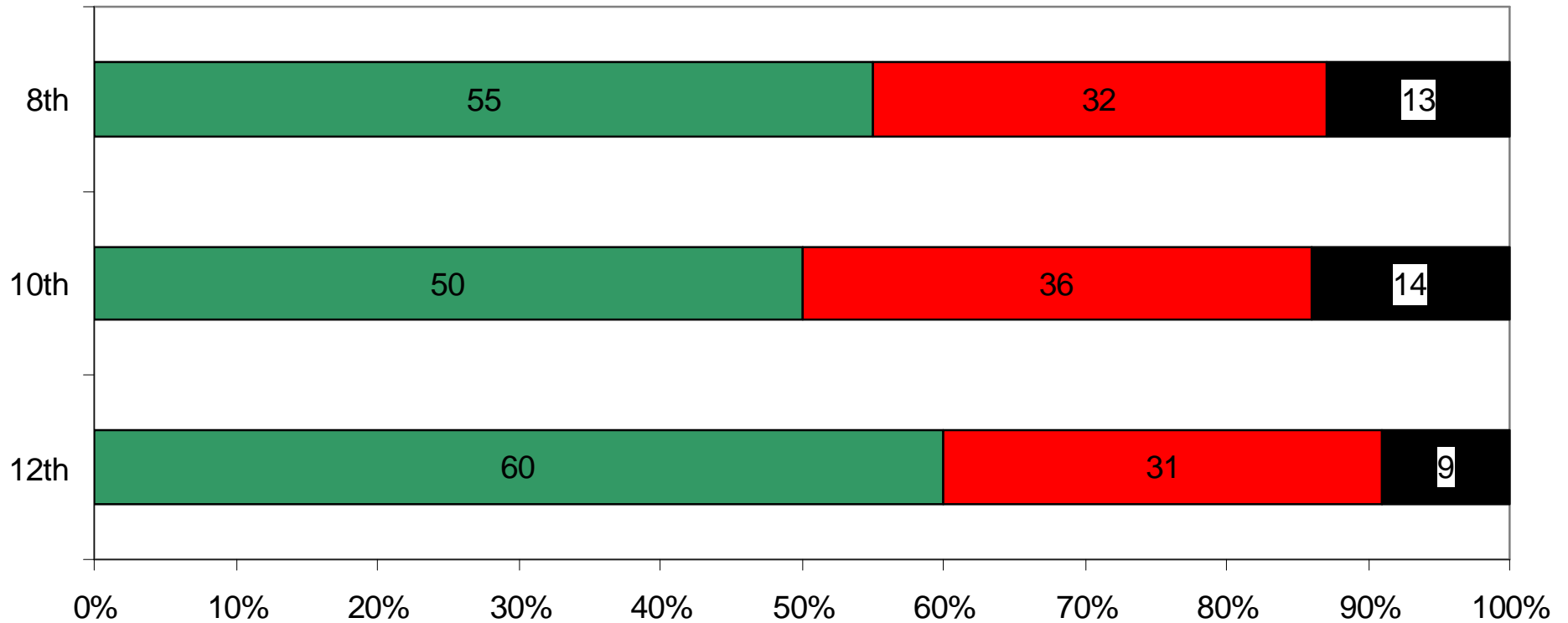
I think how my family would be hurt or angry if I were caught using alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs.

I am influenced by strong family values against the use of alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs.



Student Perceptions About School Learning Environment

I feel I can talk to teachers in this school about things that are bothering me.



Strongly agree/Agree



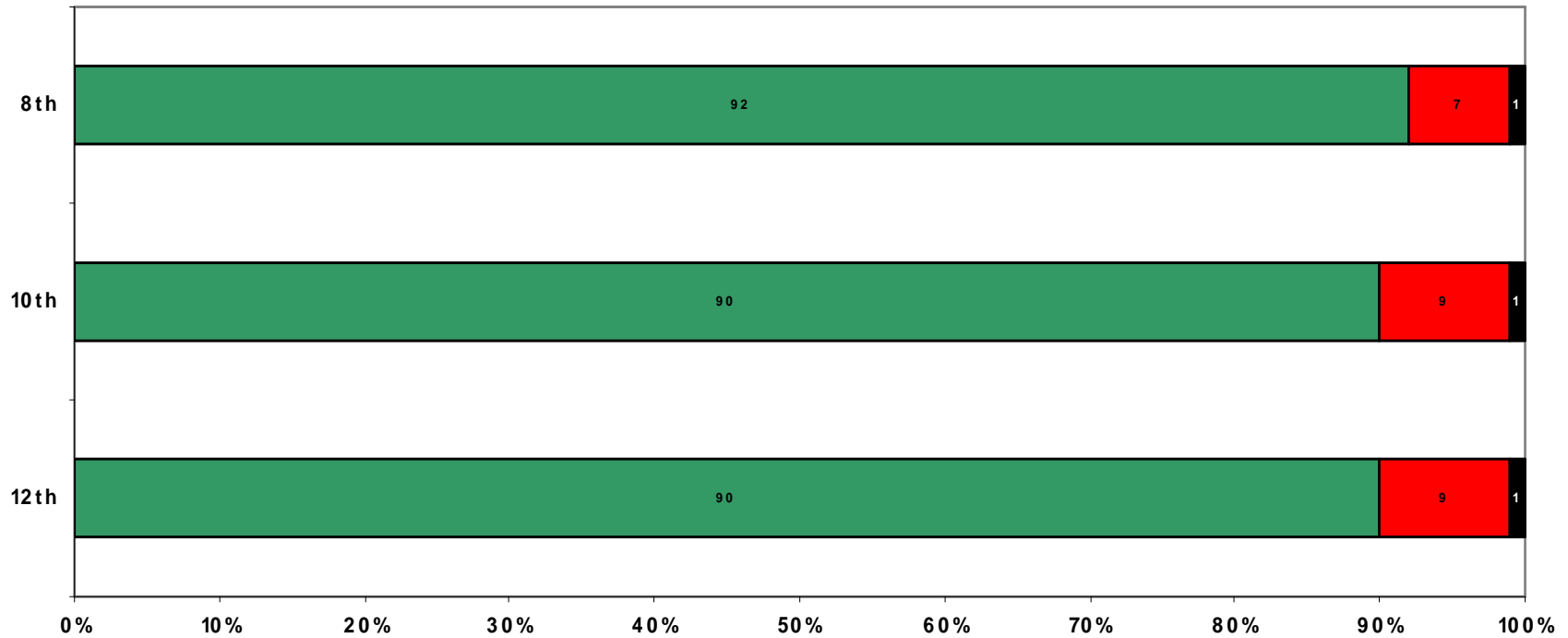
Disagree



Strongly disagree

Student Perceptions About School Learning Environment

Teachers in this school have high expectations for their students



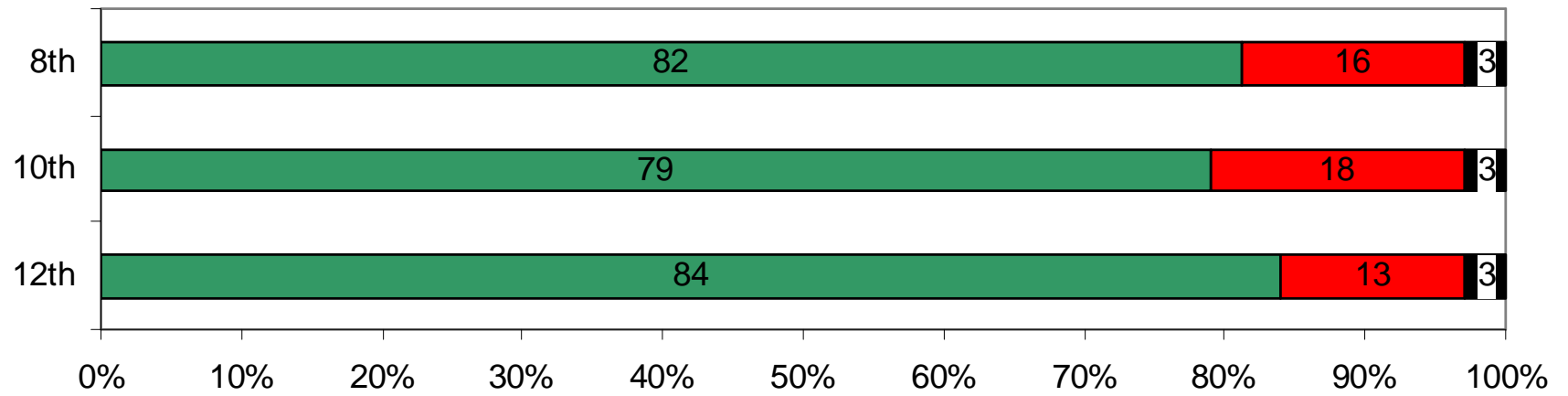
Strongly agree/Agree



Disagree

Strongly disagree

Teachers in this school treat students with respect



Strongly agree/Agree

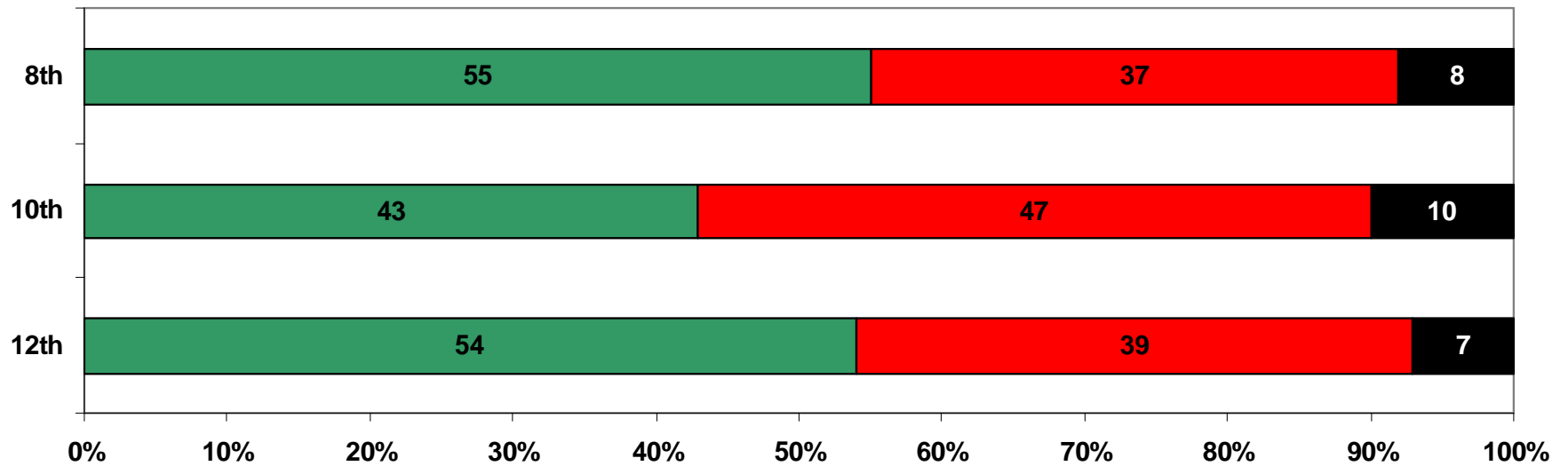


Disagree



Strongly disagree

Students in this school treat teachers with respect



Strongly agree/Agree

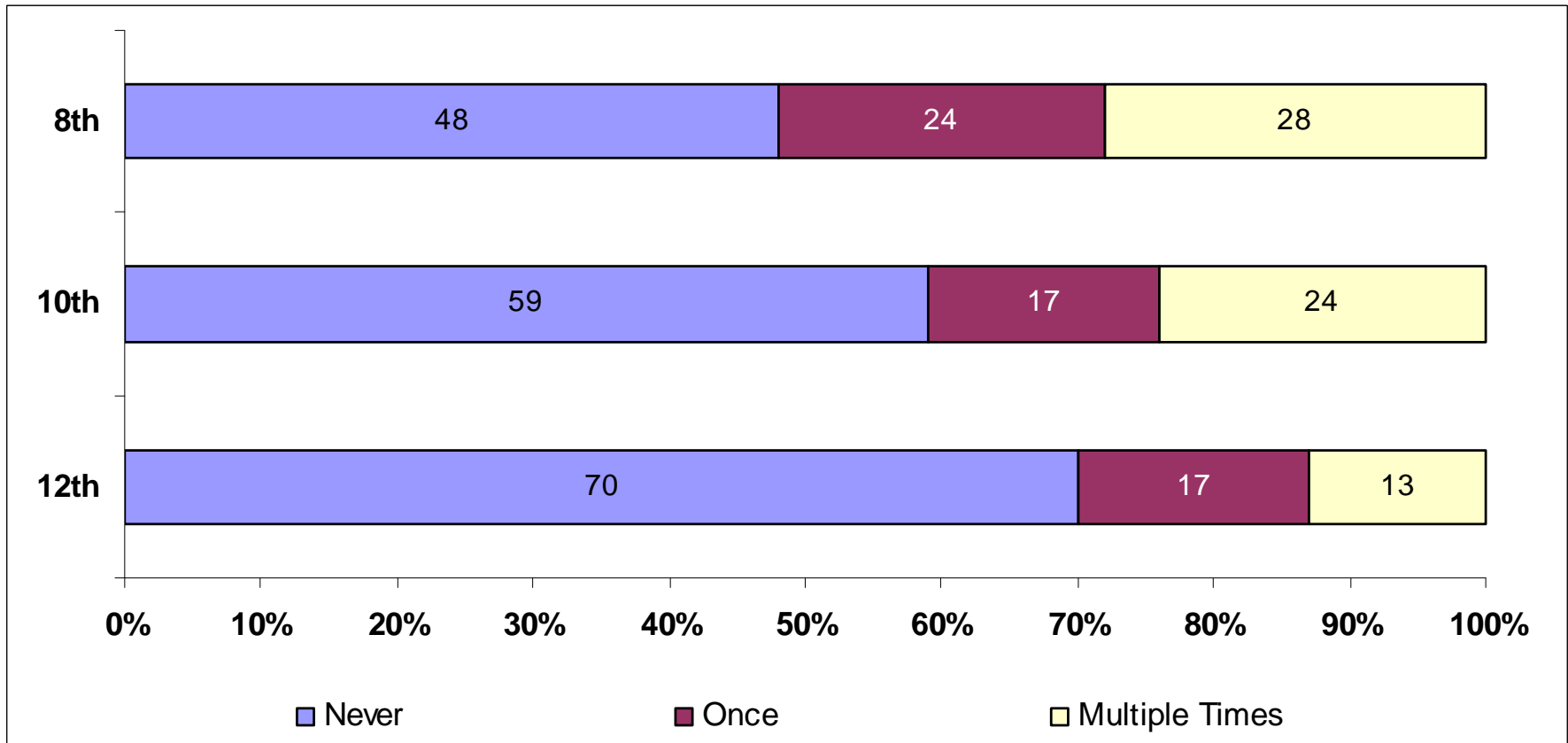


Disagree

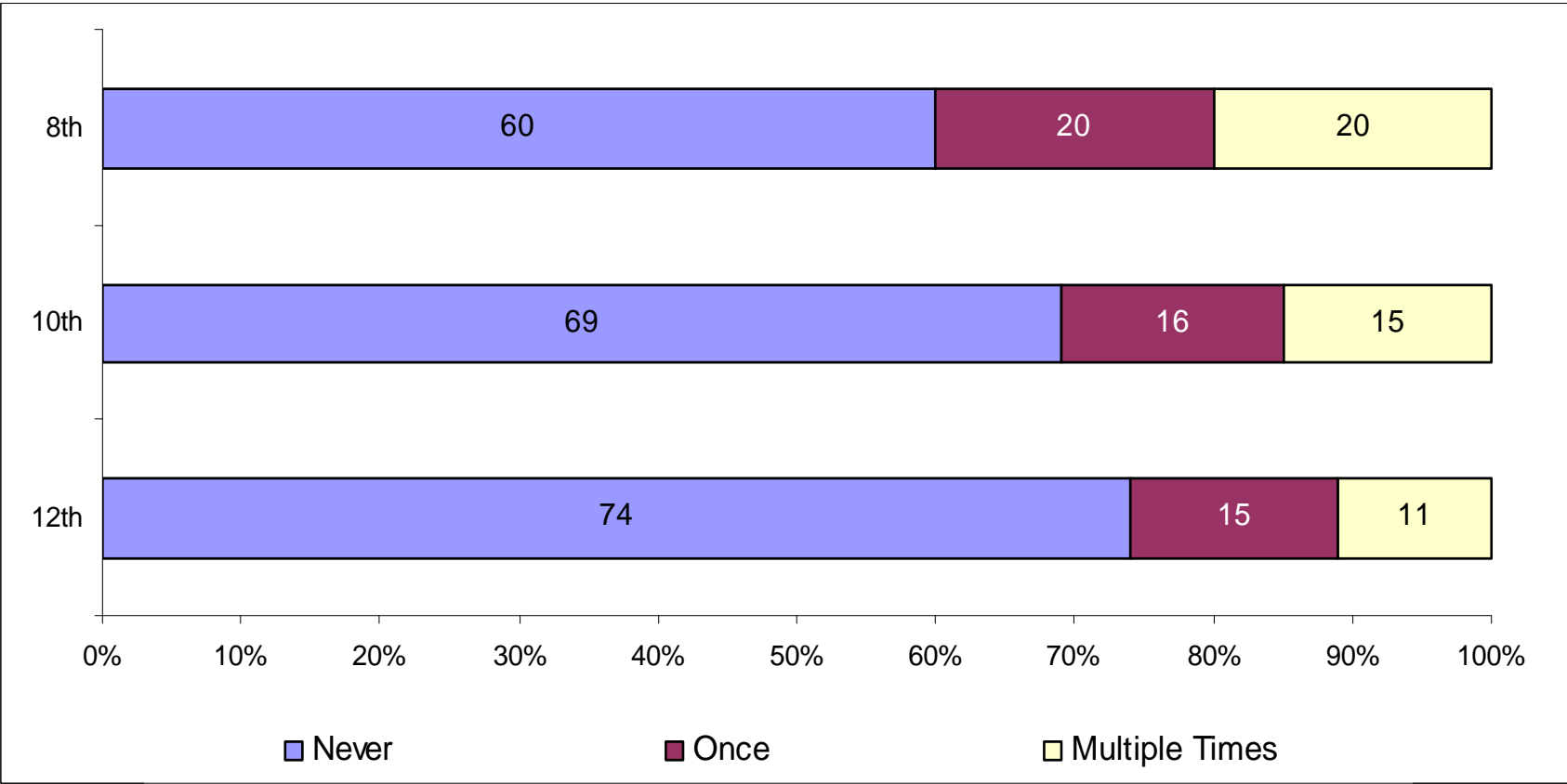


Strongly disagree

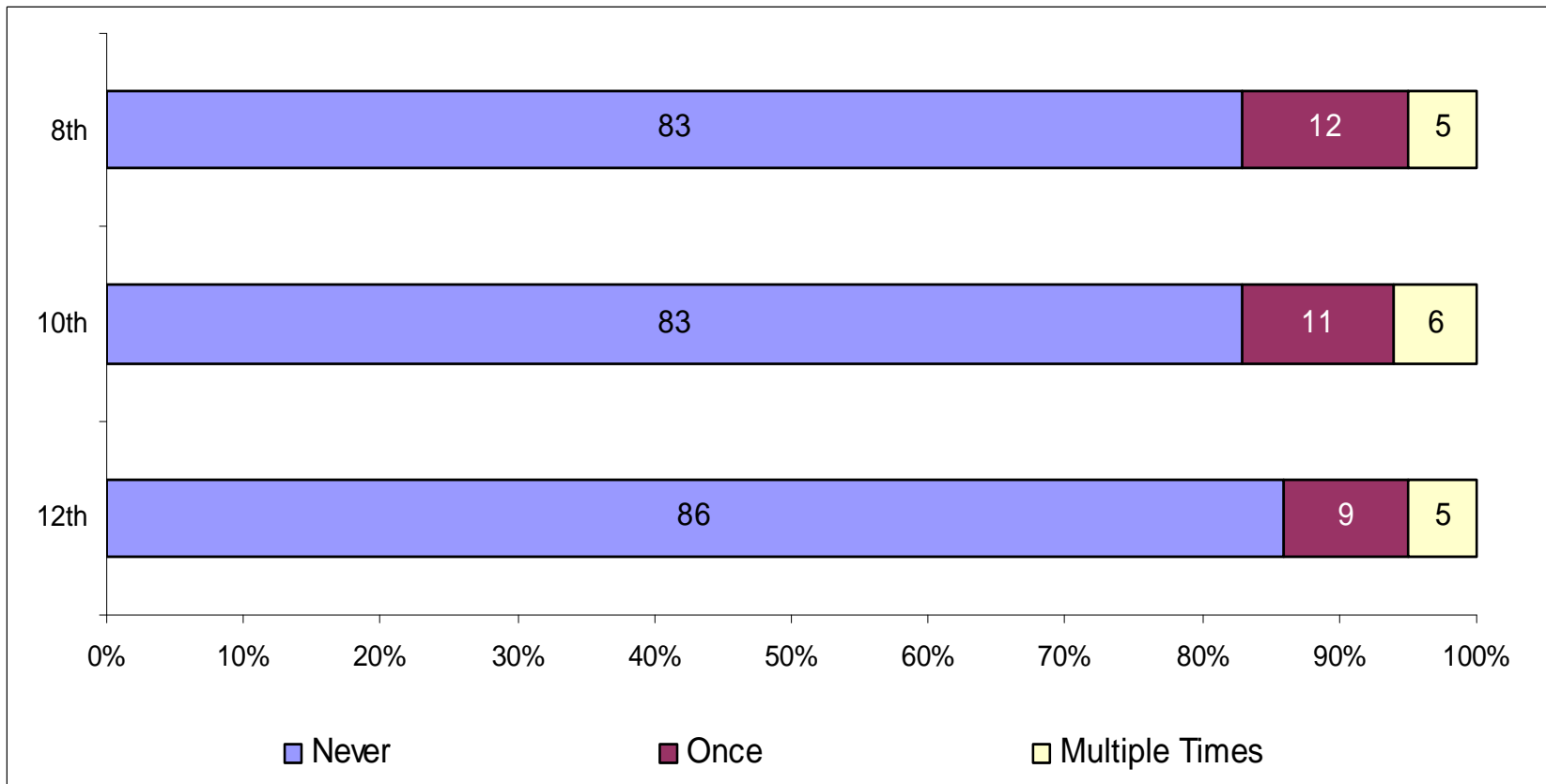
Victim (verbal) - During the past year at school, how often has someone verbally bullied you?



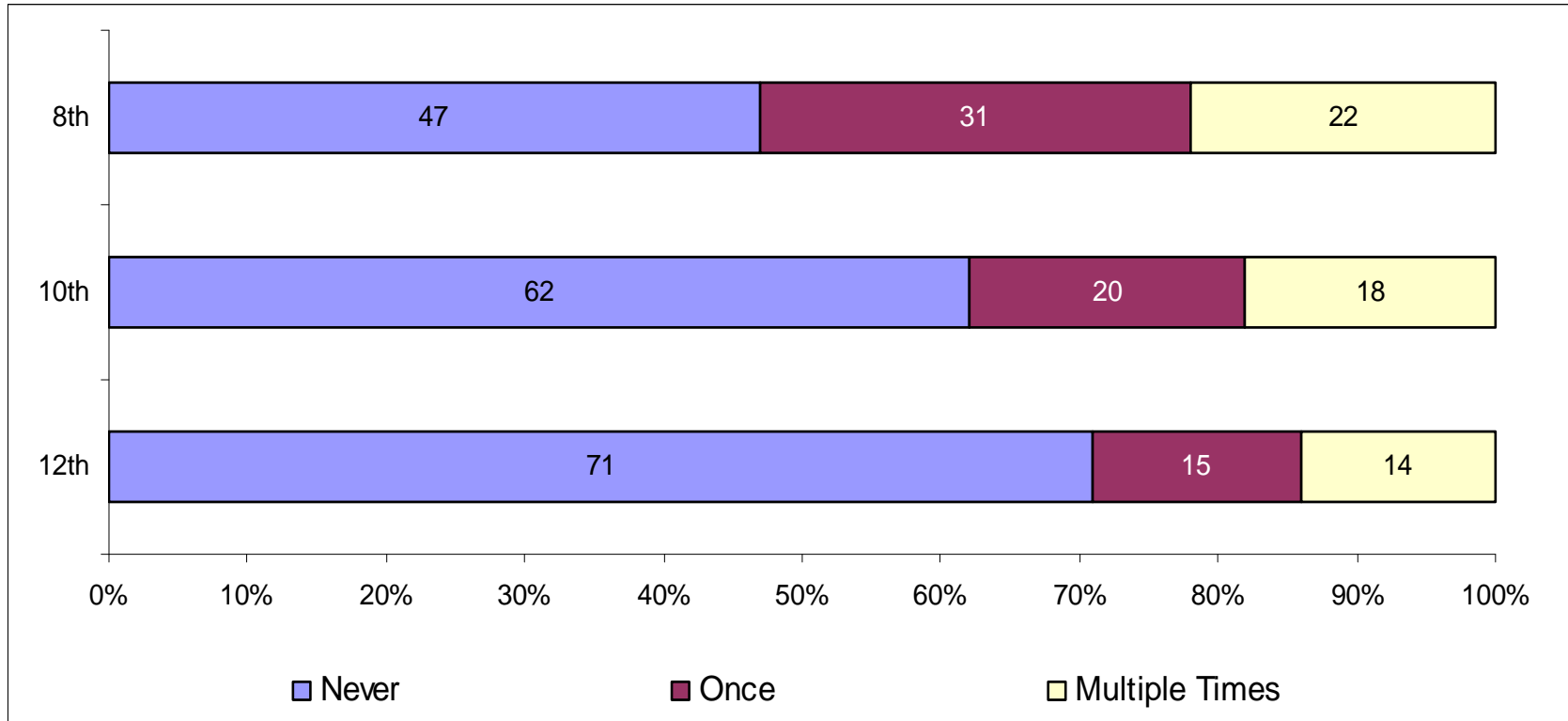
Victim (relational aggression) – During the past year at school, how often has someone left you out of a group or activity to hurt you?



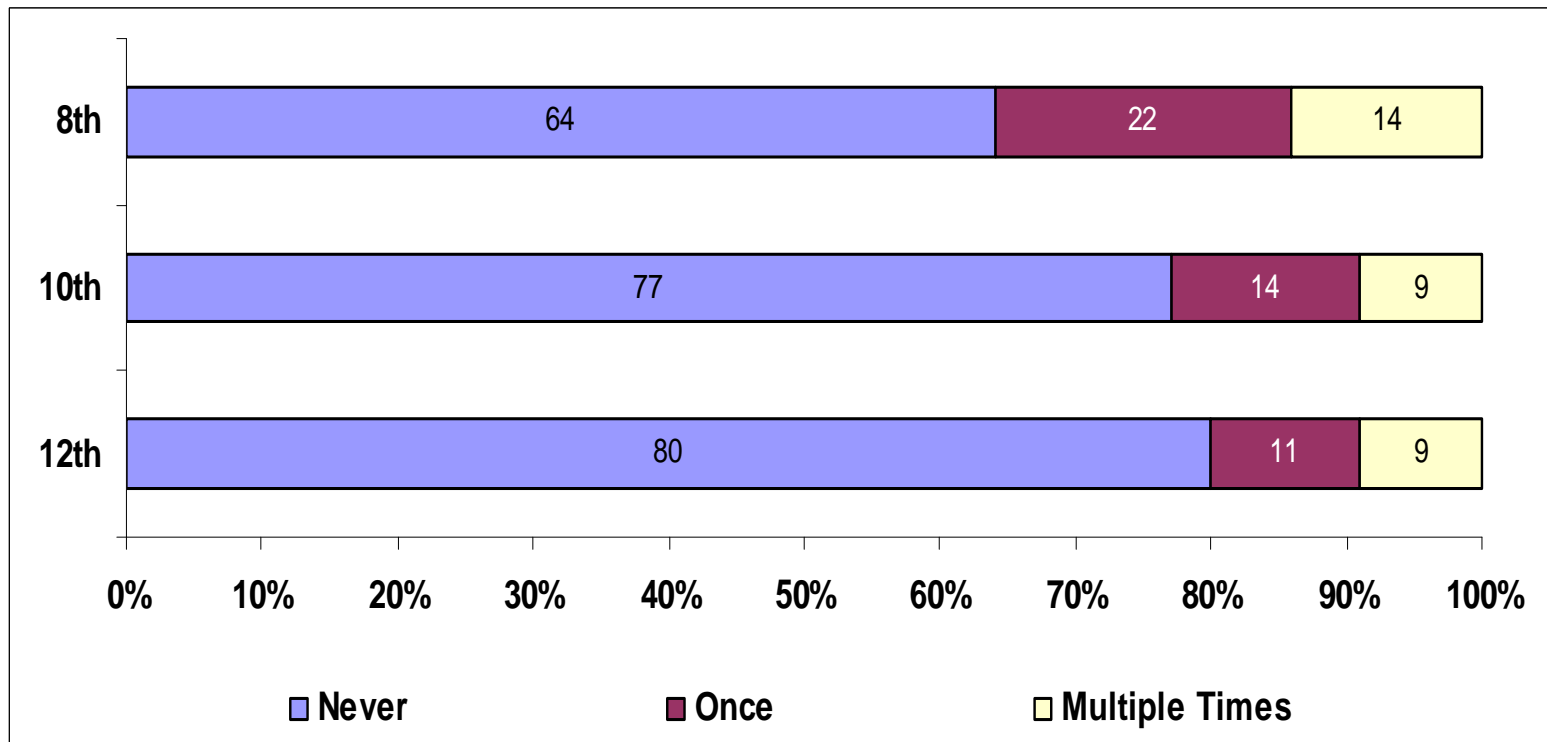
Victim (physical) - During the past year at school, how often have you feared for your physical safety?



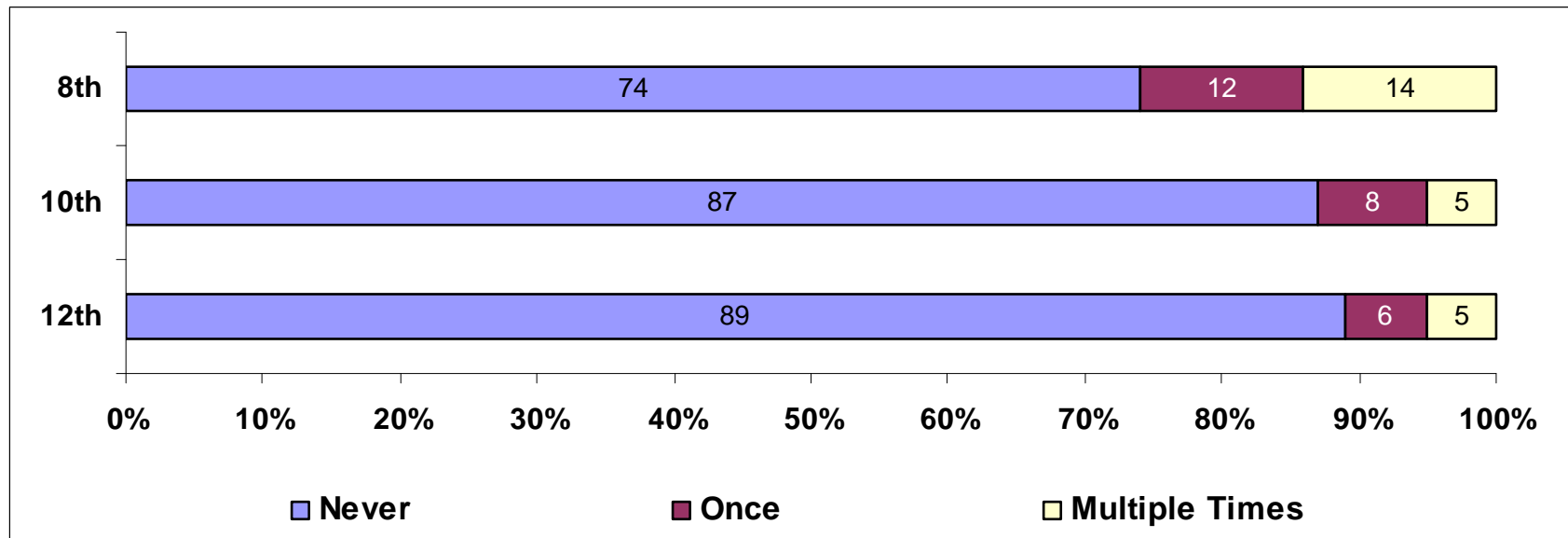
Bullying Behavior (verbal) - During the past year at school, how often have you told lies or spread rumors about someone?



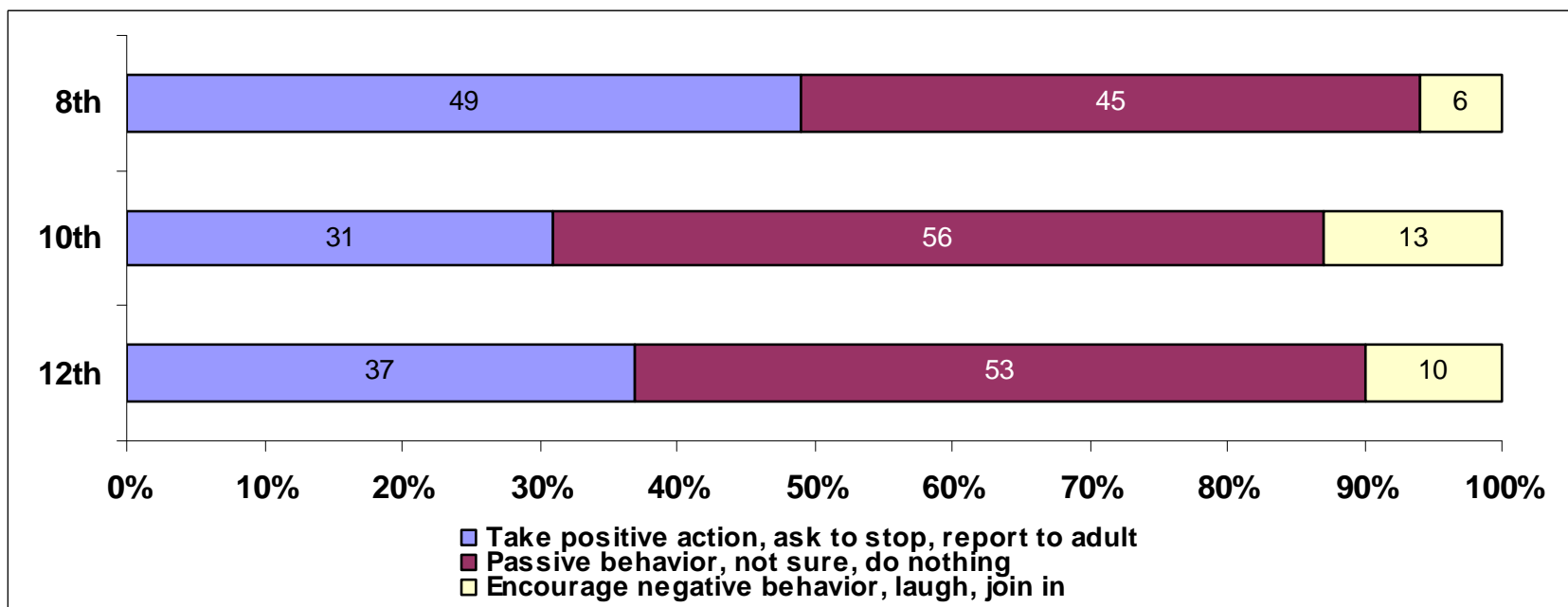
Bullying Behavior (relational aggression) - During the past year at school, how often have you left someone out of a group or activity to hurt them?



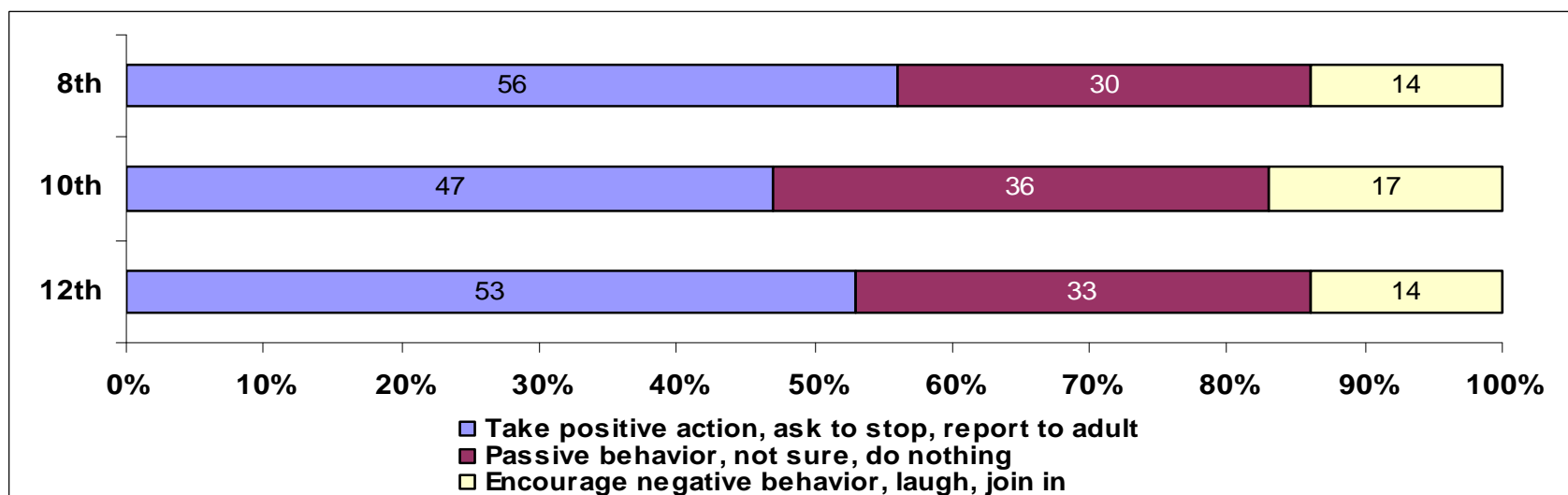
Bullying Behavior (Physical) - During the past year at school, how often have you pushed others around to make them afraid?



Response of Bystanders (verbal) – What do you usually do when you hear another student being called mean or hurtful names?



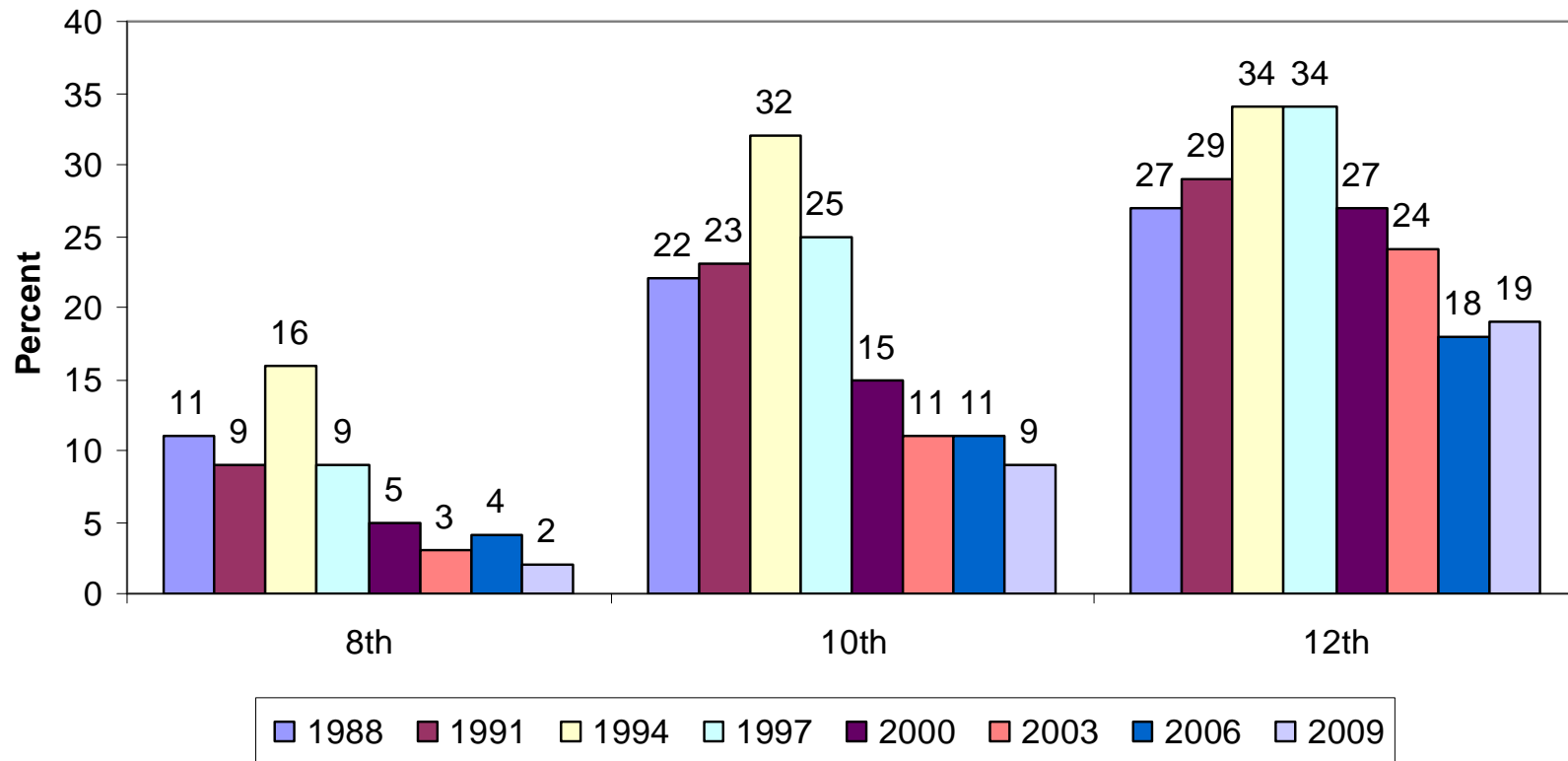
Response of Bystanders (physical) – Students in this school treat teachers with respect



Regular Use of Cigarettes

Worthington City Schools 1988-09

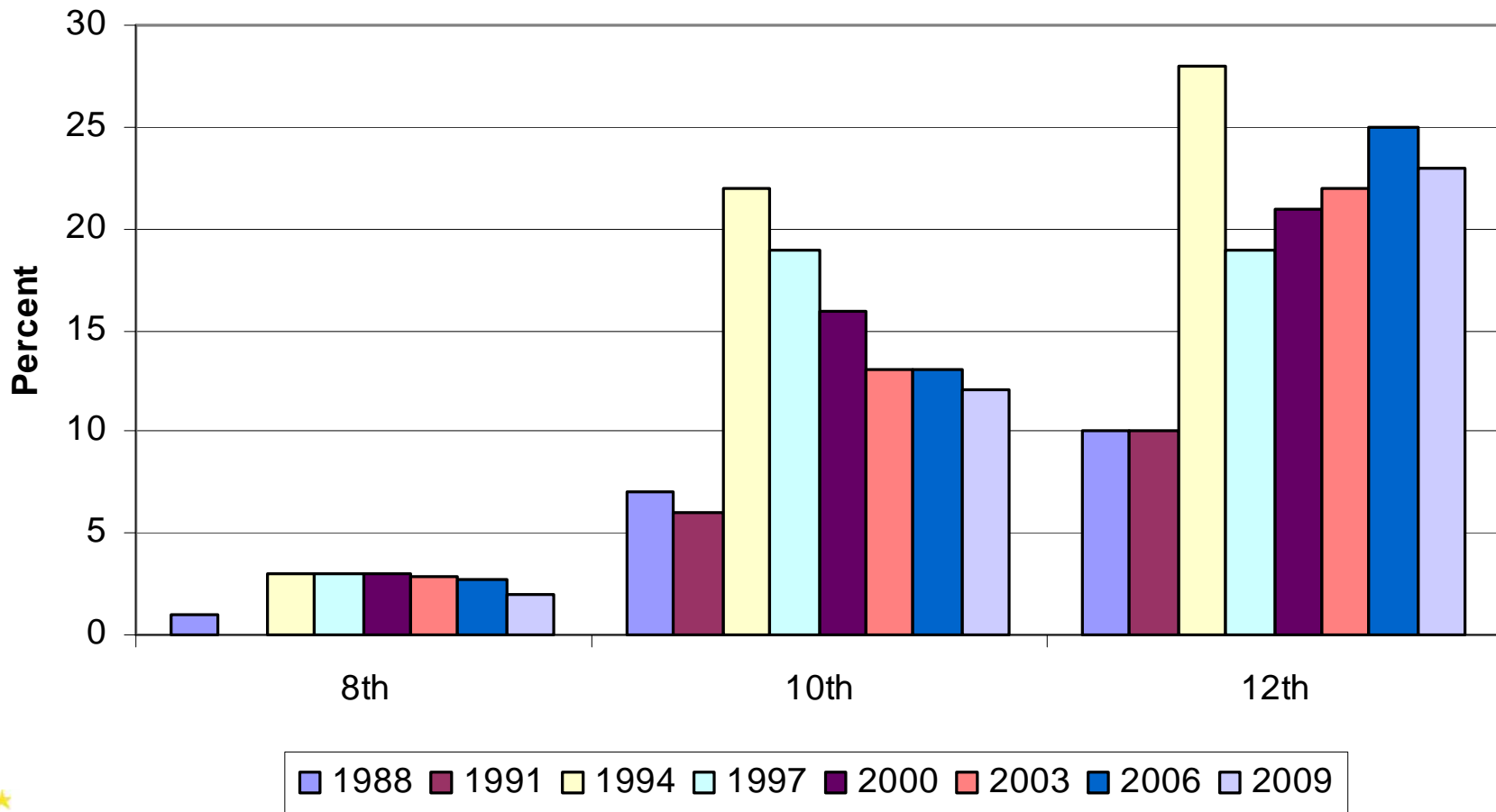
Percent Who Use Cigarettes Monthly or More Often



Regular Use of Marijuana

Worthington City Schools 1988-09

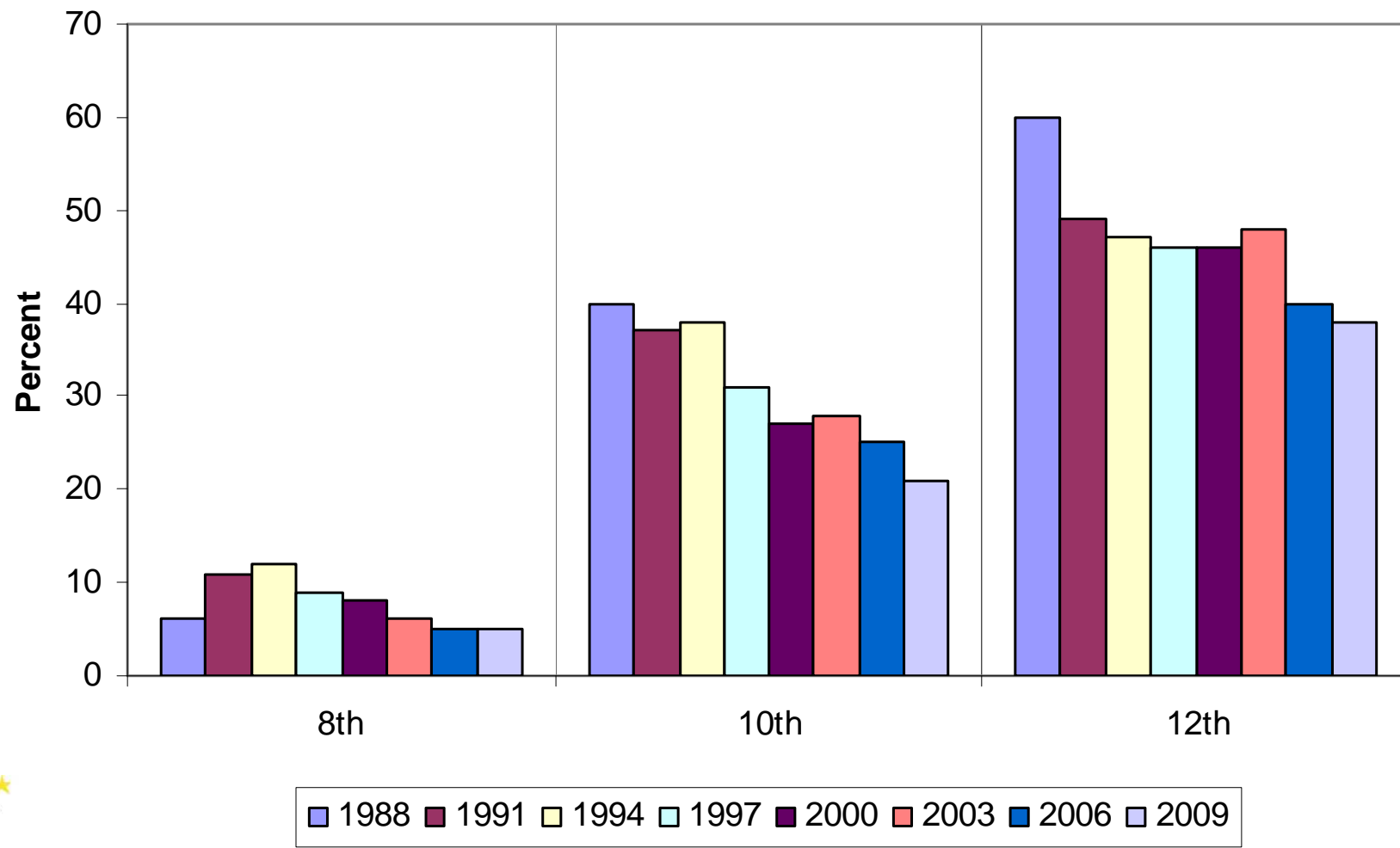
Percent Who Use Marijuana Monthly or More Often



Regular Use of Alcohol

Worthington City Schools 1988-09

Percent Who Use Alcohol Monthly or More Often



Recommendations

- 1) Support programs that help students to make good personal choices about their non-use of ATOD
- 2) Enhance student leadership to encourage the normative culture and peer influence
- 3) Build parent awareness to this community problem so they can help give a clear “no use” message
- 4) Continue to build positive school culture