

# DANVERS HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOR SURVEY

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2010 FINAL REPORT



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## INTRODUCTION

The Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) monitors priority health risk behaviors that contribute to the leading causes of death, disability and social problems among youth. The 2010 Danvers YRBS was conducted in April of 2010 and administered to a total of 784 students in 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades. This represents a 77% response rate.

Table 1. 2010 Response rate of those surveyed and those enrolled by grade.

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Number Surveyed</b>	<b>Number Enrolled</b>	<b>% Respondents</b>
9 <sup>th</sup>	231	260	89%
10 <sup>th</sup>	186	249	75%
11 <sup>th</sup>	176	246	72%
12 <sup>th</sup>	188	260	72%
Ungraded or missing	3	-	-
<b>Totals</b>	<b>784</b>	<b>1,015</b>	<b>77%</b>

## SURVEY METHODS

The 2010 Danvers High School YRBS Survey tool was adapted from the Massachusetts Department of Education (DOE) Youth Risk Behavior Survey and the 2005 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Youth Risk Behavior Survey.

Teachers administering the survey were instructed to remind students of the importance and value of the data and to answer as honestly as possible. Instructions were read aloud, affirming that the survey was voluntary and anonymous.

Of the total surveys distributed, three students responded 'other' or 'ungraded' to the grade level question therefore their surveys were omitted. Nine students did not complete the height and weight sections, or filled in responses that were deleted as outliers (outside the expected normal range).

Percentages reported are of the total students responding to the question unless otherwise noted. Although the survey was administered in 2006, the data is not included in this report because only 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders completed the survey, making it difficult to make comparisons to 2008 and 2010 data. Trend data is included in the chart and in the comparison table. The Excel file of raw data and frequency and crosstab tables are included in the Appendices.

## **RESULTS**

### **Behaviors Related to Unintentional Injuries**

- Fifty-three percent (53%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported ‘always’ wearing a seat belt when riding in a car, compared to 51% in 2008.
- Seven percent (7%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported ‘always’ wearing a helmet when riding a bicycle, compared to 8% in 2008.
- Twenty-nine percent (29%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported ever riding in a car driven by someone who had been drinking alcohol during the past 30 days, unchanged from 29% in 2008.

### **Violence – Related Behaviors and Experiences**

- Twelve percent (12%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported carrying a weapon during the past 30 days, compared to 11% in 2008.
- Twenty-four percent (24%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported being in a physical fight during the past 12 months, compared to 25% in 2008.
- Five percent (5%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported being in a physical fight during the past 12 months in which they had been treated by a doctor or nurse, compared to 3% in 2008.

### **Suicidal Thinking and Behaviors**

- Fourteen percent (14%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported seriously considering suicide during the past 12 months, compared to 11% in 2008.
- Eleven percent (11%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported making a plan to commit suicide during the past 12 months, compared to 10% in 2008.
- Nine percent (9%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported attempting suicide during the past 12 months, compared to 12% in 2008.

### **Tobacco Use**

- Forty-one percent (41%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported smoking cigarettes in their lifetime, compared to 39% in 2008.
- Twenty percent (20%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported smoking cigarettes during the past 30 days, compared to 21% in 2008.
- Eight percent (8%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported first smoking cigarettes prior to age 13, compared to 7% in 2008.
- Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported first cigarettes use at an average age of 15.3 years, compared to 15.2 in 2008.

## **Alcohol Use**

- Sixty-nine percent (69%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported drinking alcohol in their lifetime, unchanged from 69% in 2008.
- Forty-six percent (46%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported having alcohol in the past 30 days, unchanged from 46% in 2008.
- Thirty percent (30%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported drinking 5 or more drinks of alcohol in a row during the past 30 days, compared to 31% in 2008.
- Twelve percent (12%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported first alcohol use prior to age 13, compared to 15% in 2008.
- Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported first alcohol use at an average age of 14.5 years, compared to 14.3 years in 2008.

## **Marijuana Use**

- Forty-five percent (45%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported using marijuana in their lifetime, compared to 39% in 2008.
- Thirty percent (30%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported using marijuana in the past 30 days, compared to 24% in 2008.
- Seven percent (7%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported smoking marijuana prior to age 13, compared to 6% in 2008.
- Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported first marijuana use at an average age of 14.7 years, compared to 15.1 years in 2008.

## **Prescription Drug Use**

- Thirteen percent (13%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported using prescription pain relievers in their lifetime, compared to 12% in 2008.
- Six percent (6%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported using prescription pain relievers in the past 30 days. (Question not asked in 2008).
- Thirteen percent (13%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported using prescription stimulants in their lifetime, compared to 12% in 2008.
- Seven percent (7%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported using prescription stimulants in the past 30 days. (Question not asked in 2008).
- Eight percent (8%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported using prescription tranquilizers in their lifetime, compared to 7% in 2008.
- Four percent (4%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported using prescription tranquilizers in the past 30 days. (Question not asked in 2008).

### **Perception of Risk of Harm**

- Eighty-seven percent (87%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported moderate or great risk from smoking one or more packs of cigarettes every day, compared to 88% in 2008.
- Sixty-five percent (65%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported moderate or great risk from drinking alcohol nearly every day, compared to 62% in 2008.
- Seventy-seven percent (77%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported moderate or great risk from having 5 or more drinks in a row at least twice a week. (Question not asked in 2008.)
- Fifty-nine percent (59%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported moderate or great risk from smoking marijuana regularly, compared to 64% in 2008.

### **Perception of Parental Disapproval**

- Ninety-four percent (94%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported parental disapproval of smoking cigarettes, compared to 93% in 2008.
- Eighty-seven percent (87%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported parental disapproval of smoking marijuana, compared to 89% in 2008.
- Eighty-eight percent (88%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported parental disapproval of drinking alcohol regularly, compared to 84% in 2008.

### **Sexual Behaviors**

- Forty-six percent (46%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported having sexual intercourse in their lifetime, compared to 42% in 2008.
- Of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders who reported ever having sexual intercourse, 65% reported using a condom the last time they had sexual intercourse, compared to 60% in 2008.

### **Pregnancy and HIV/AIDS Prevention**

- Forty-seven percent (47%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported talking with their parents/guardians about STDs, HIV infection or pregnancy in the past 12 months, compared to 49% in 2008.
- Eighty-three percent (83%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported having ever been taught about AIDS or HIV infection in school, compared to 88% in 2008.
- Forty-four percent (44%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported ever being taught how to use a condom in school, compared to 52% in 2008.

### **Body Image, Physical Activity, and Screen Time**

- Seventy-four percent (74%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders have a healthy BMI (not at risk of overweight), compared to 75% in 2008.
- Ninety-one percent (91%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported engaging in physical activity during the past 7 days, compared to 84% in 2008.
- Twenty-one percent (21%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported watching television for 3 or more hours per day on an average school day, compared to 26% in 2008.
- Twenty-four percent (24%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported playing video or computer games 3 or more hours per day on an average school day, compared to 22% in 2008.

### **Gambling**

- Fifty-eight percent (58%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported ever playing the lottery or scratch-off tickets, compared to 59% in 2008.
- Forty-seven percent (47%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported ever playing cards for money, compared to 52% in 2008.

### **Protective Factors**

- Sixty-one percent (61%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported having at least one teacher/adult to talk to in school, unchanged from 61% in 2008.
- Eighty-nine percent (89%) of Danvers 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported having at least one parent/guardian or other adult to talk to outside of school, compared to 90% in 2008.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

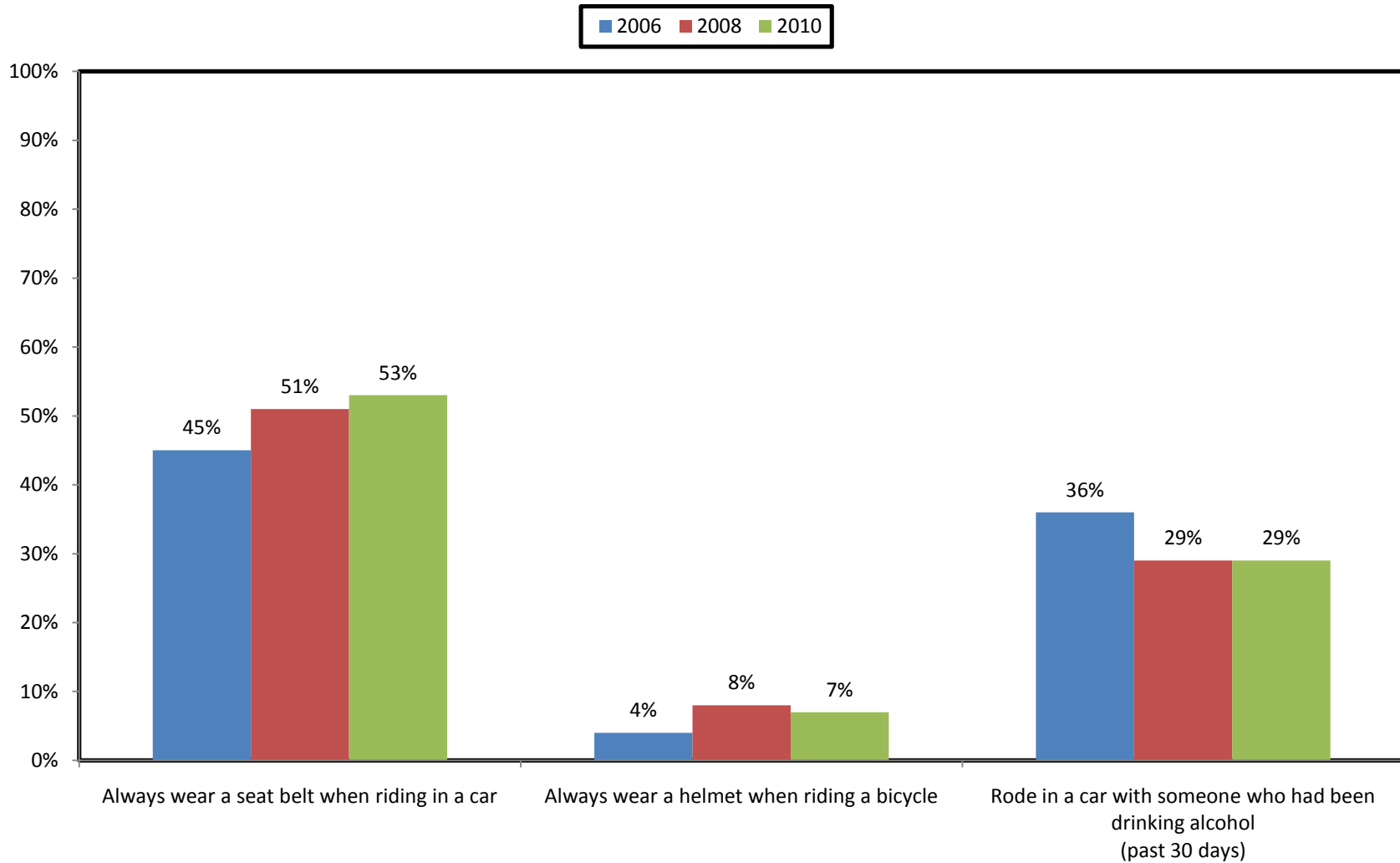
The Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) is a useful tool when used by schools and community groups working in collaboration to assess and address risk behaviors that affect youth health and well-being. It is important to stress that these health issues, while measured in the school setting, are community issues and are best addressed through collaborative community efforts. This data represents one source of information. When possible, communities should collect data on their needs and resources from a variety of sources through different methods including multiple youth and adult surveys, focus groups, and interviews of key community members and leaders.

It is recommended that the program, curricula or strategies selected to address youth health issues, are research-based, or based in best practices in health promotion or prevention and evaluated for effectiveness. State agencies and departments such as the Regional Centers for Healthy Communities, the Northeast Center for Applied Prevention Technologies, the Department of Education and the Massachusetts Bureau of Substance Abuse Services are

funded to work with communities in choosing, implementing and evaluating appropriate prevention programs, curricula and strategies.

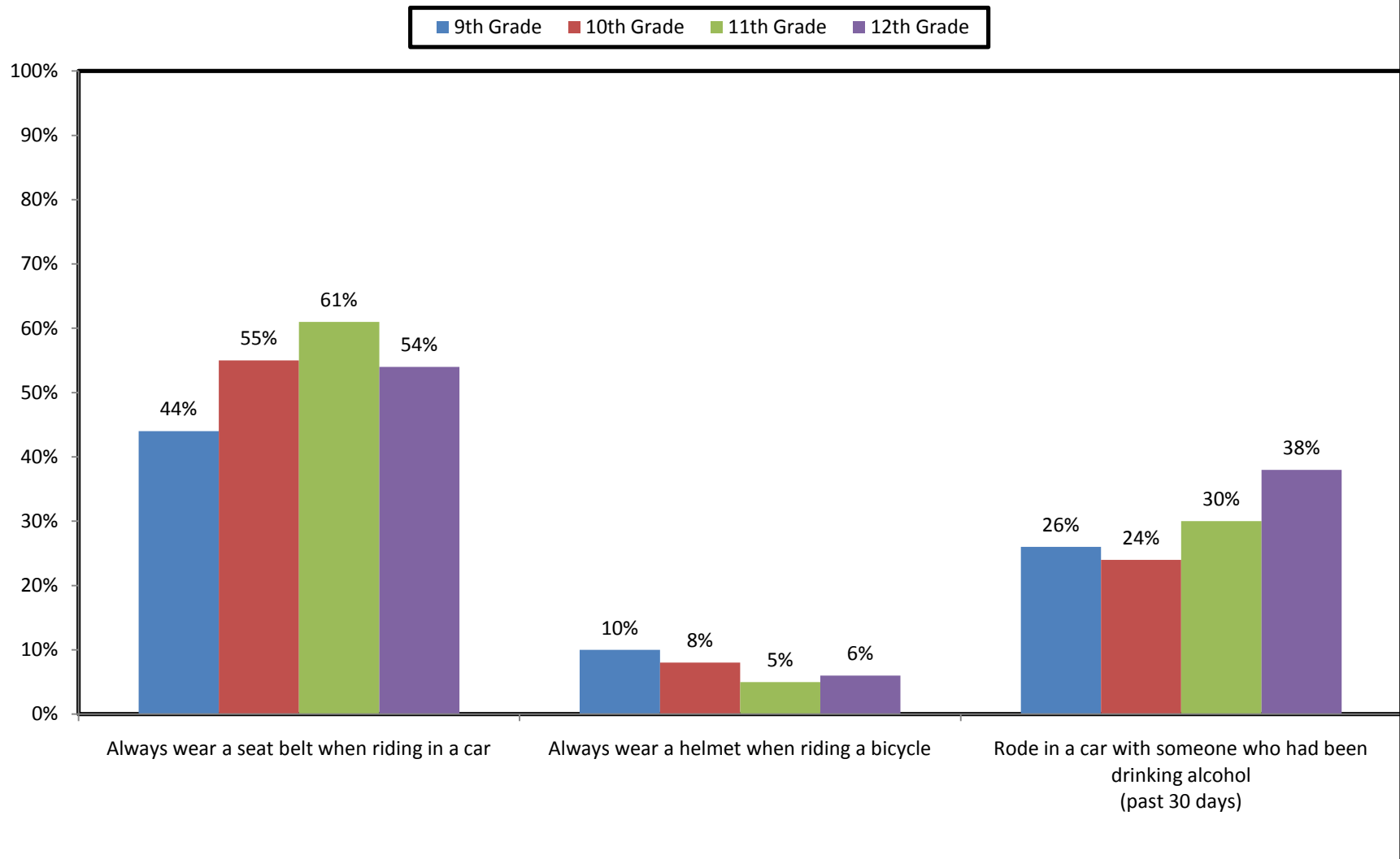
In addition, it is useful to conduct the YRBS every two years in 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades to understand trends in youth-risk taking behavior. Data collected regularly through the YRBS can help communities understand what programs are working and where additional health promotion and prevention efforts should be focused.

## Behaviors Related to Unintentional Injuries By Year, 2006-2010

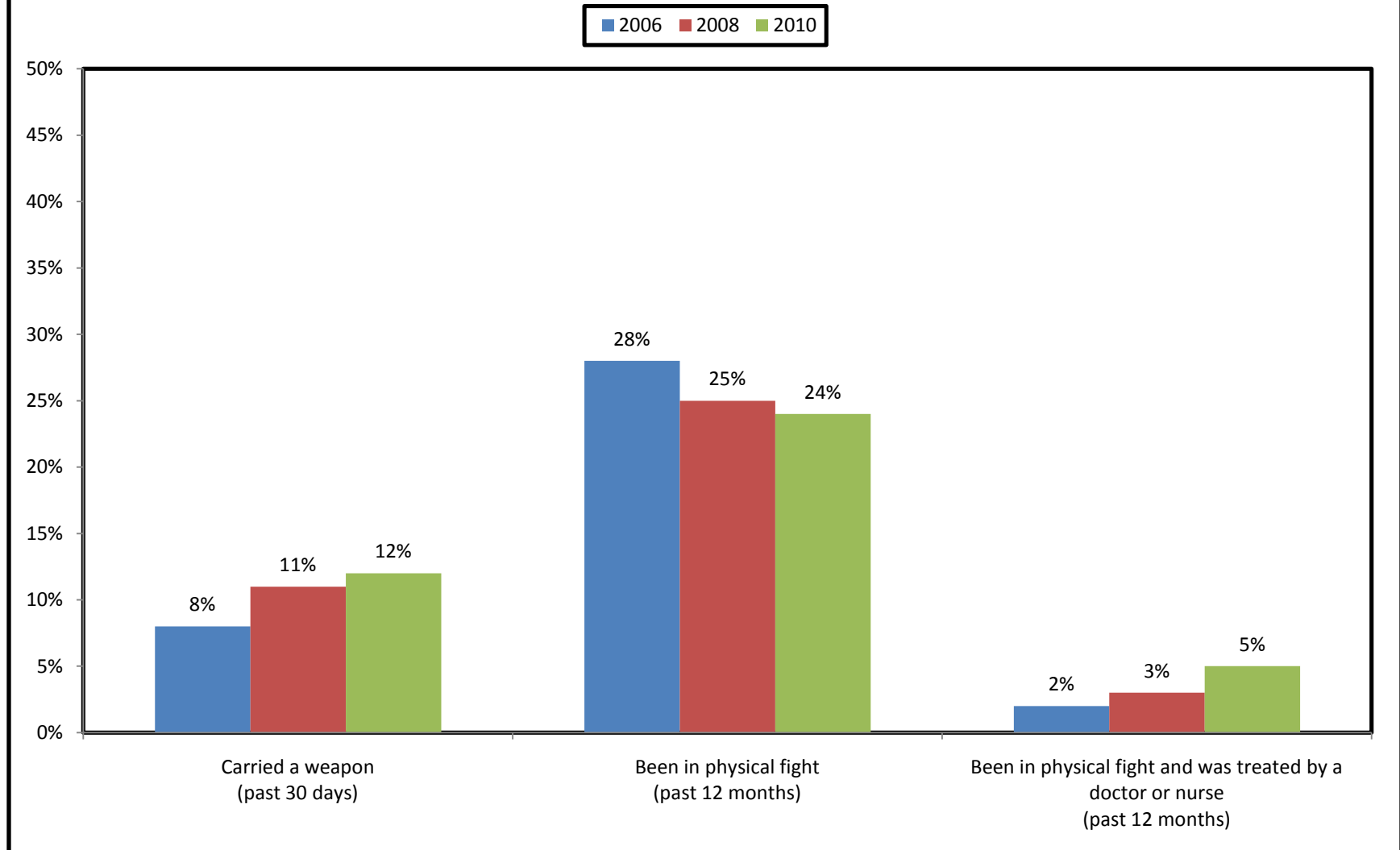


\*Only 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders were surveyed in 2006, making it difficult to make true comparisons to 2008 and 2010.

## Behaviors Related to Unintentional Injuries By Grade, 2010

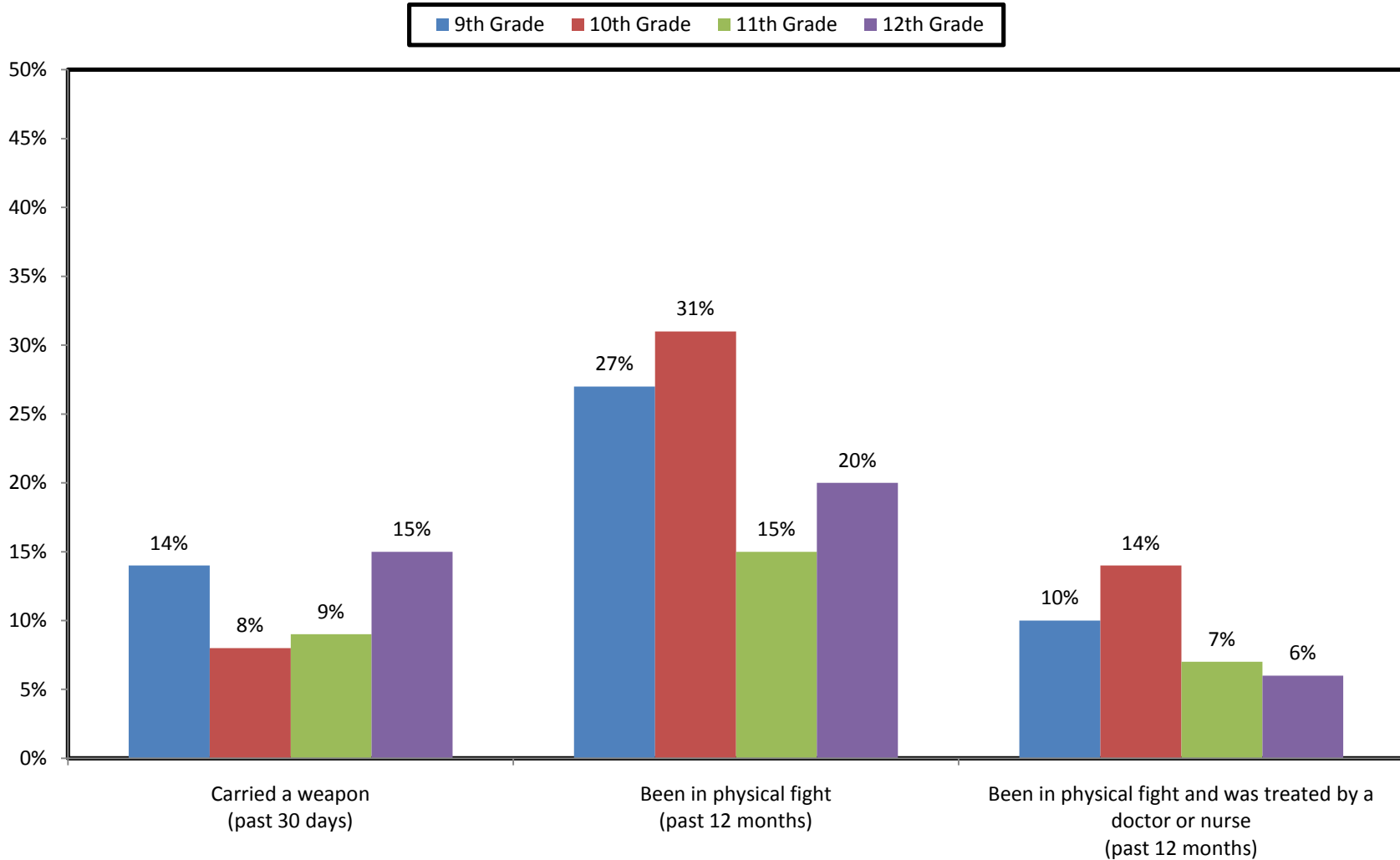


## Violence-Related Behaviors and Experiences By Year, 2006-2010

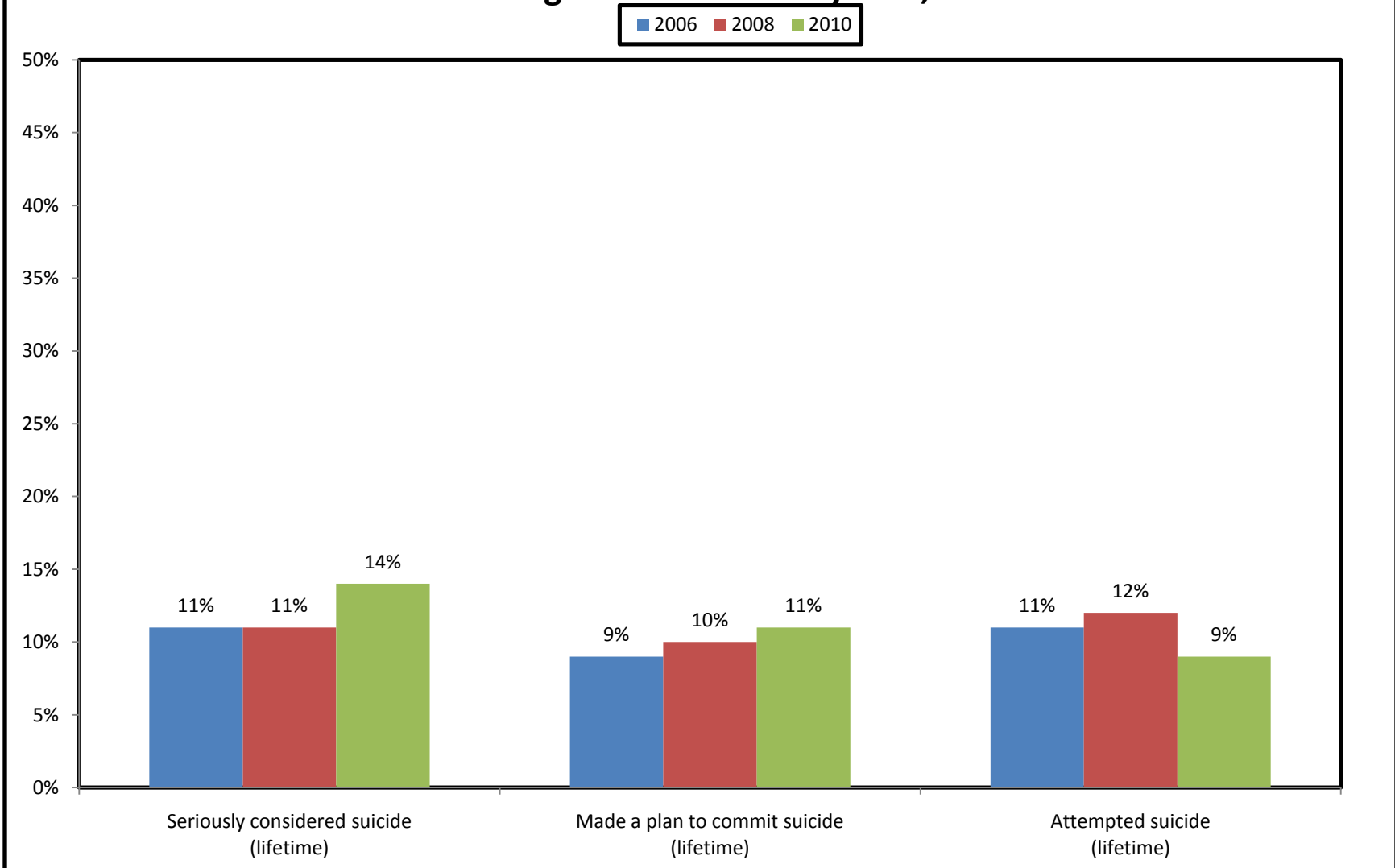


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## Violence-Related Behaviors and Experiences By Grade, 2010

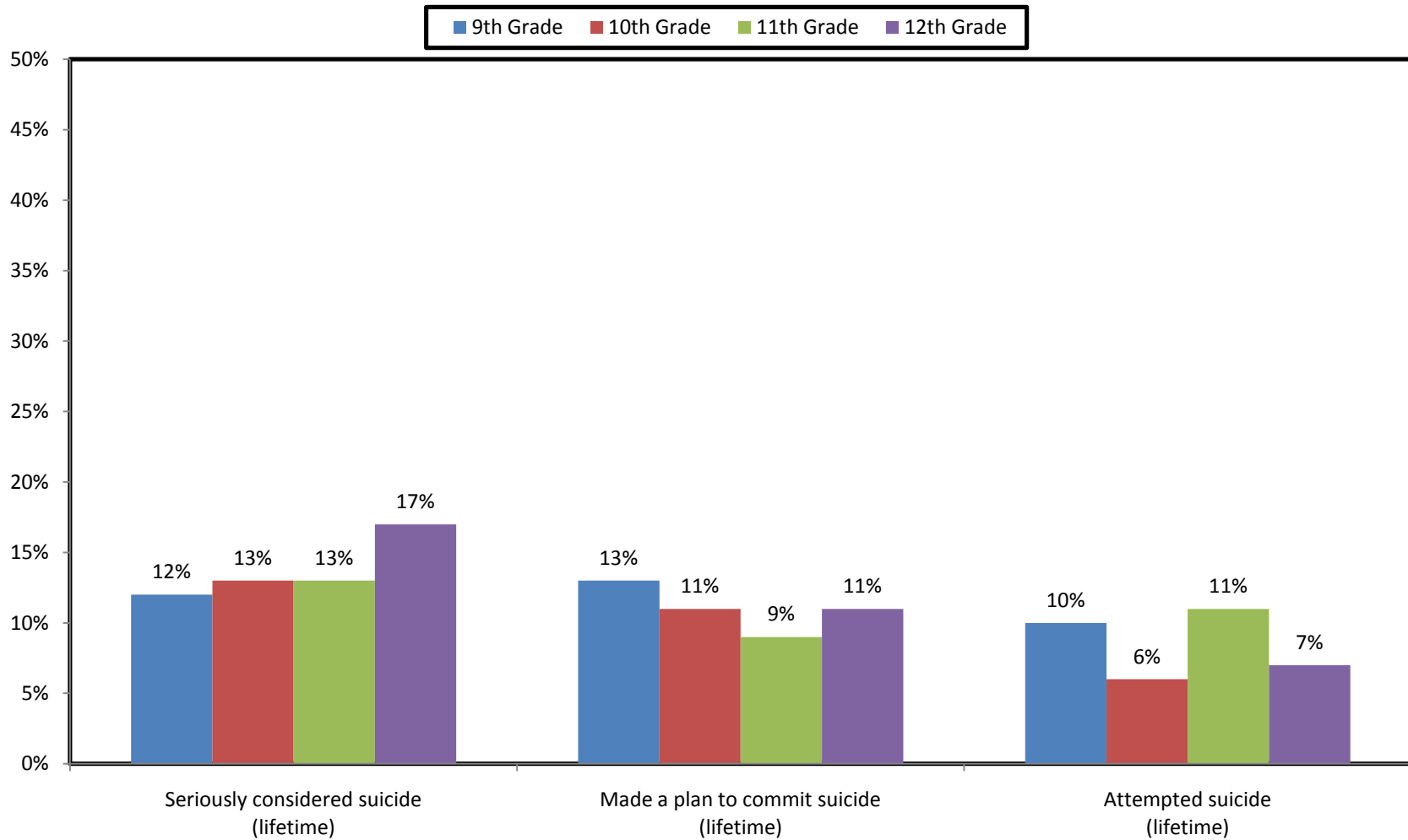


## Suicidal Thinking and Behaviors By Year, 2006-2010

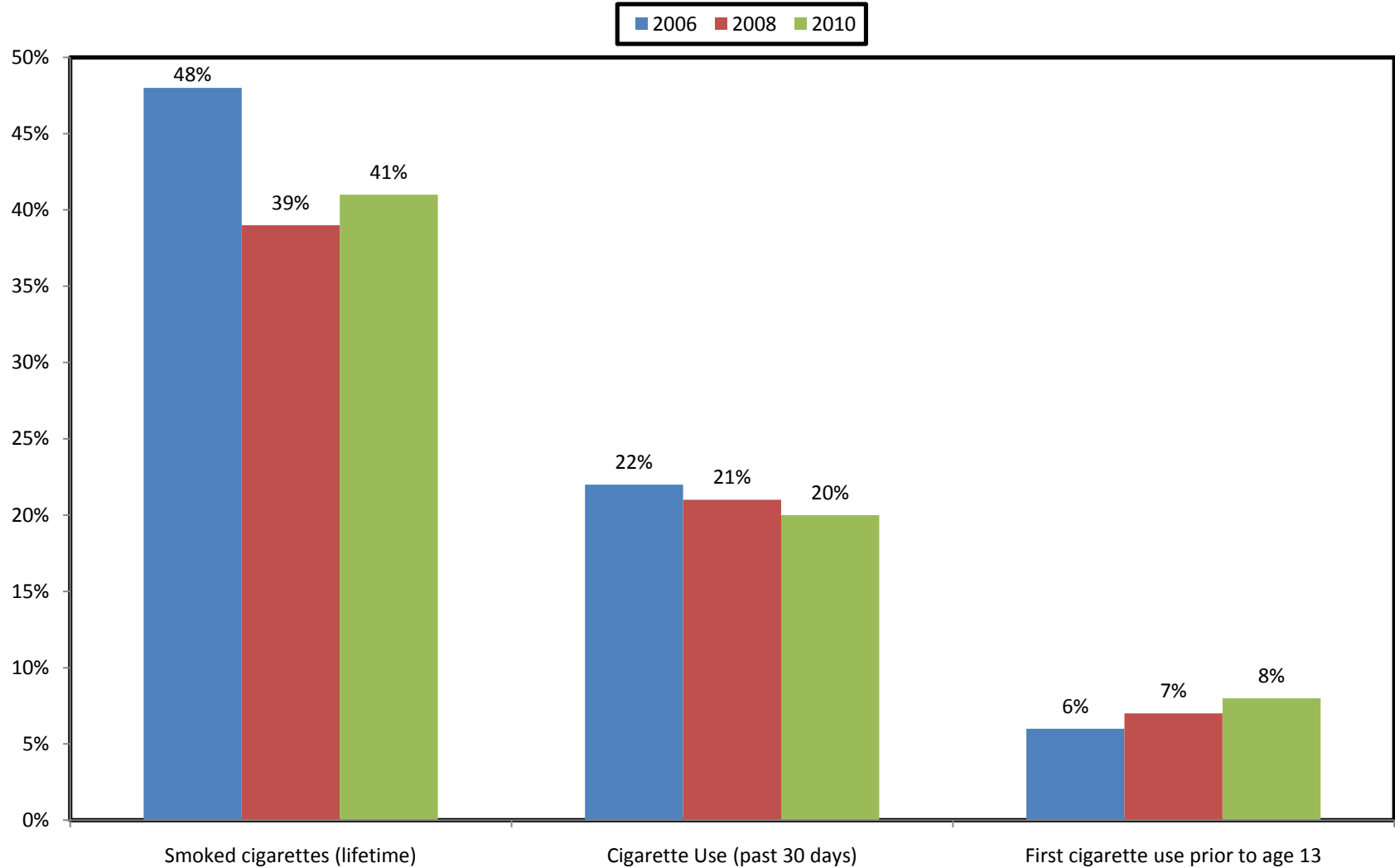


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## Suicidal Thinking and Behaviors By Grade, 2010



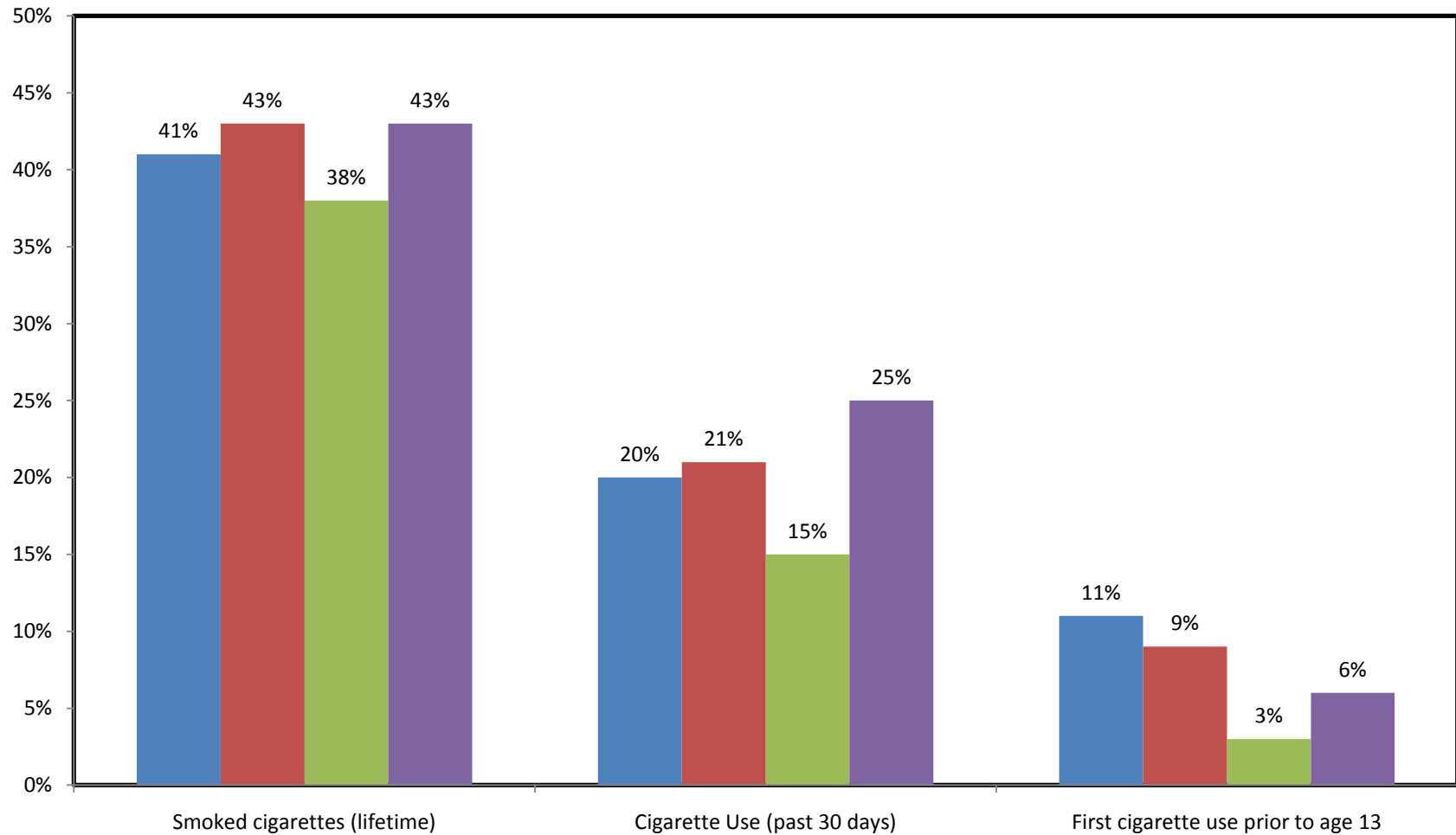
## Tobacco Use By Year, 2006-2010



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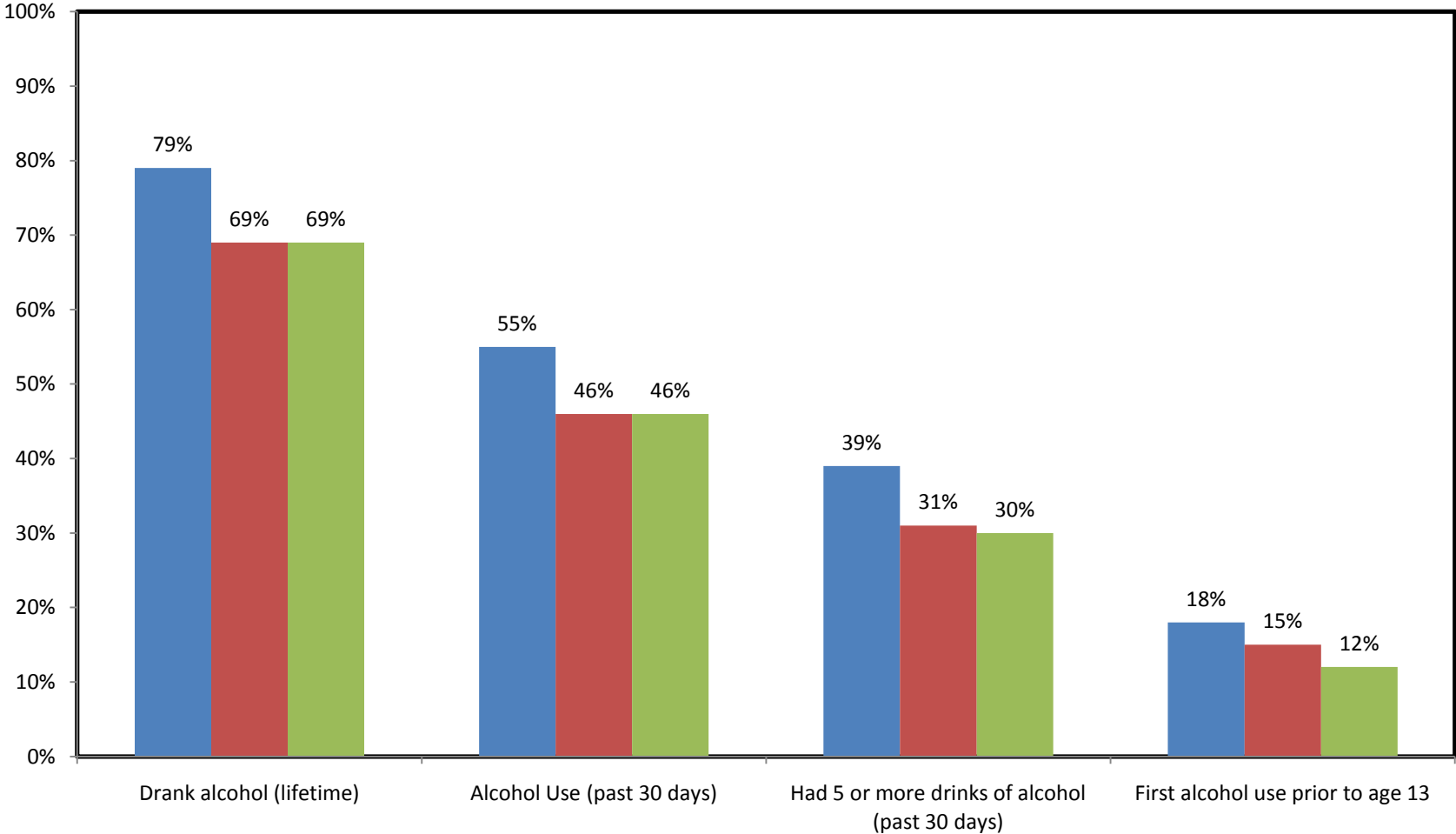
## Tobacco Use By Grade, 2010

9th Grade 10th Grade 11th Grade 12th Grade



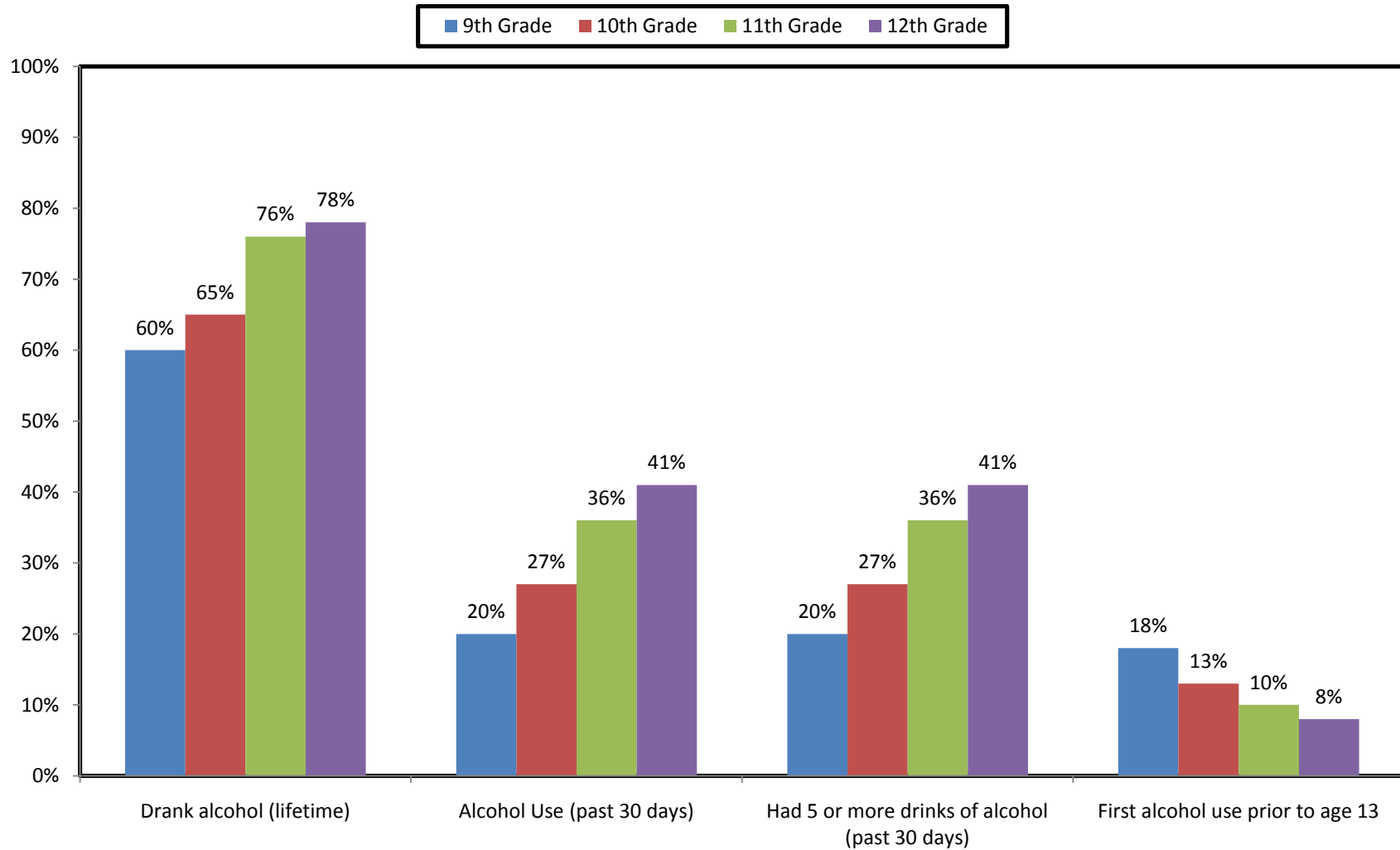
# Alcohol Use By Year, 2006-2010

■ 2006 ■ 2008 ■ 2010

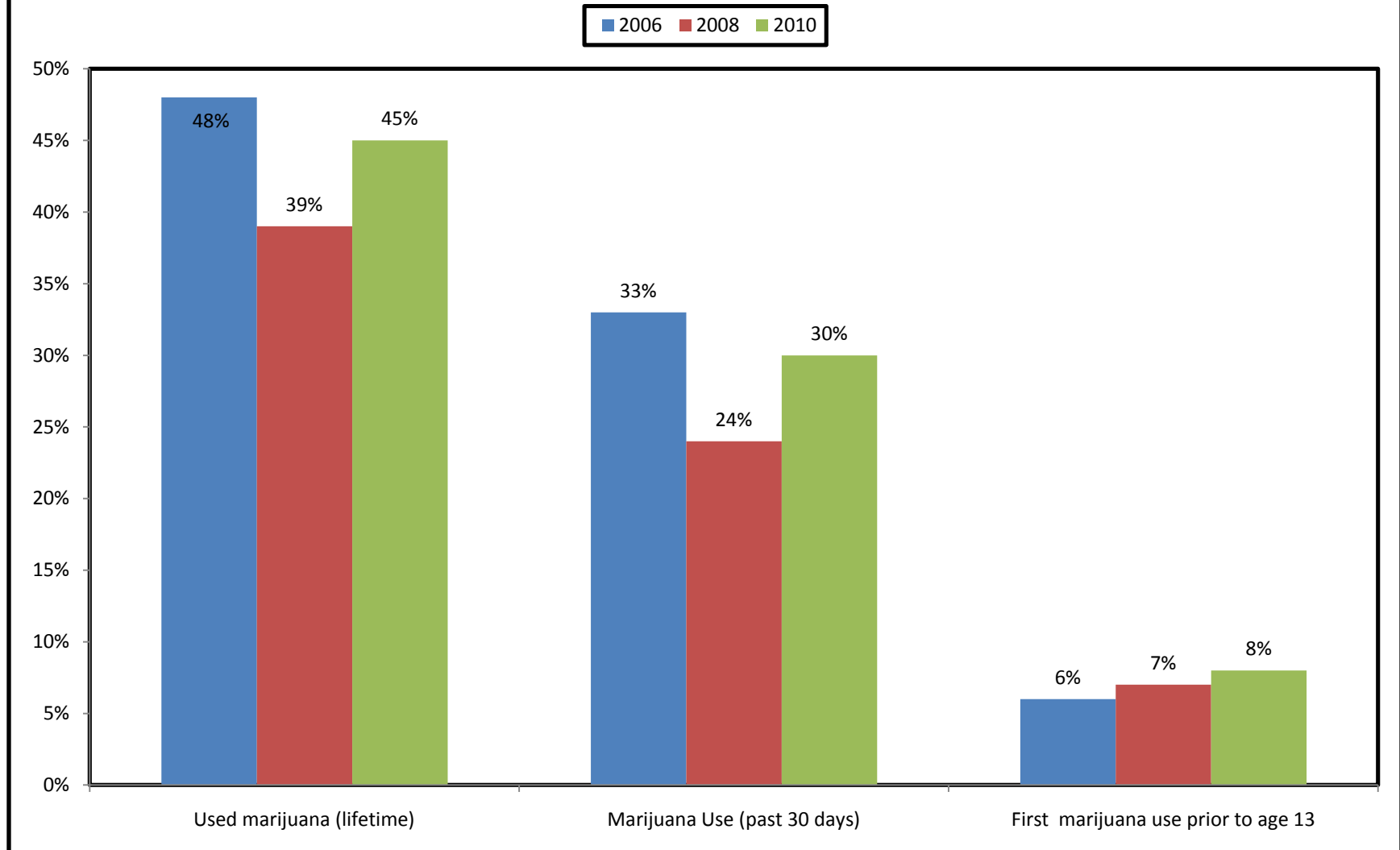


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## Alcohol Use By Grade, 2010

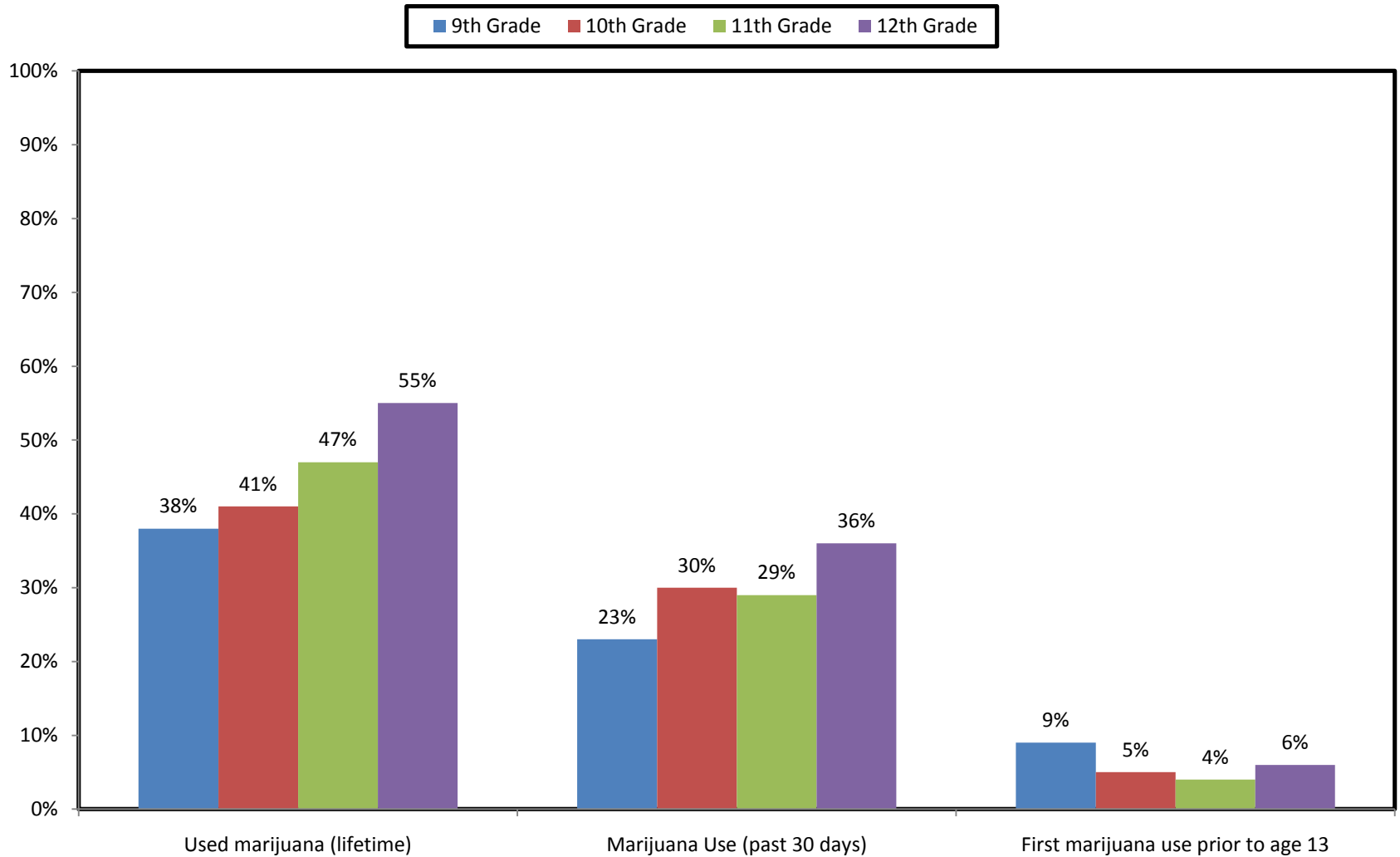


## Marijuana Use By Year, 2006-2010



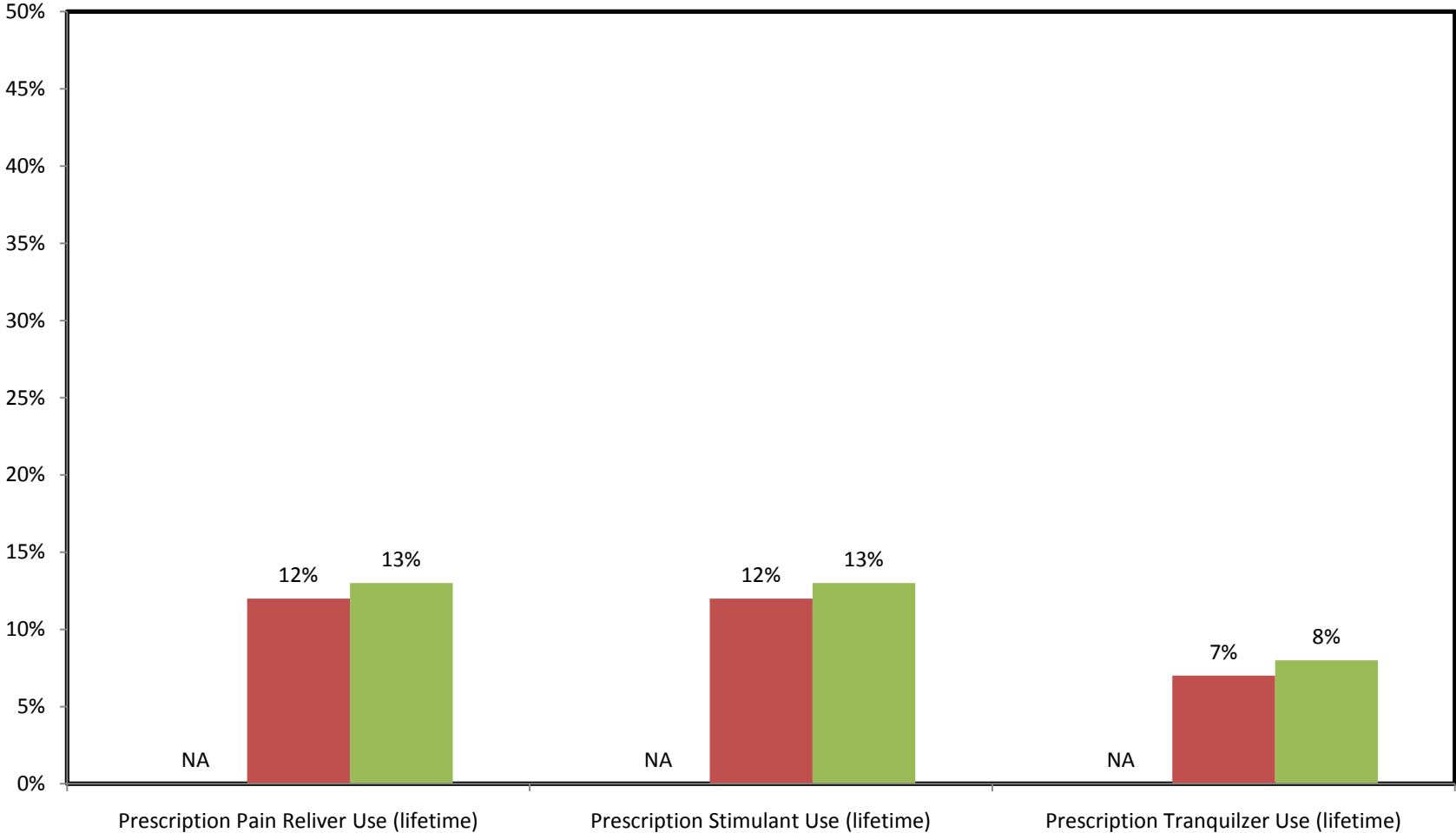
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## Marijuana Use By Grade, 2010



# Lifetime Prescription Drug Use (Type) By Year, 2006-2010

2006 2008 2010

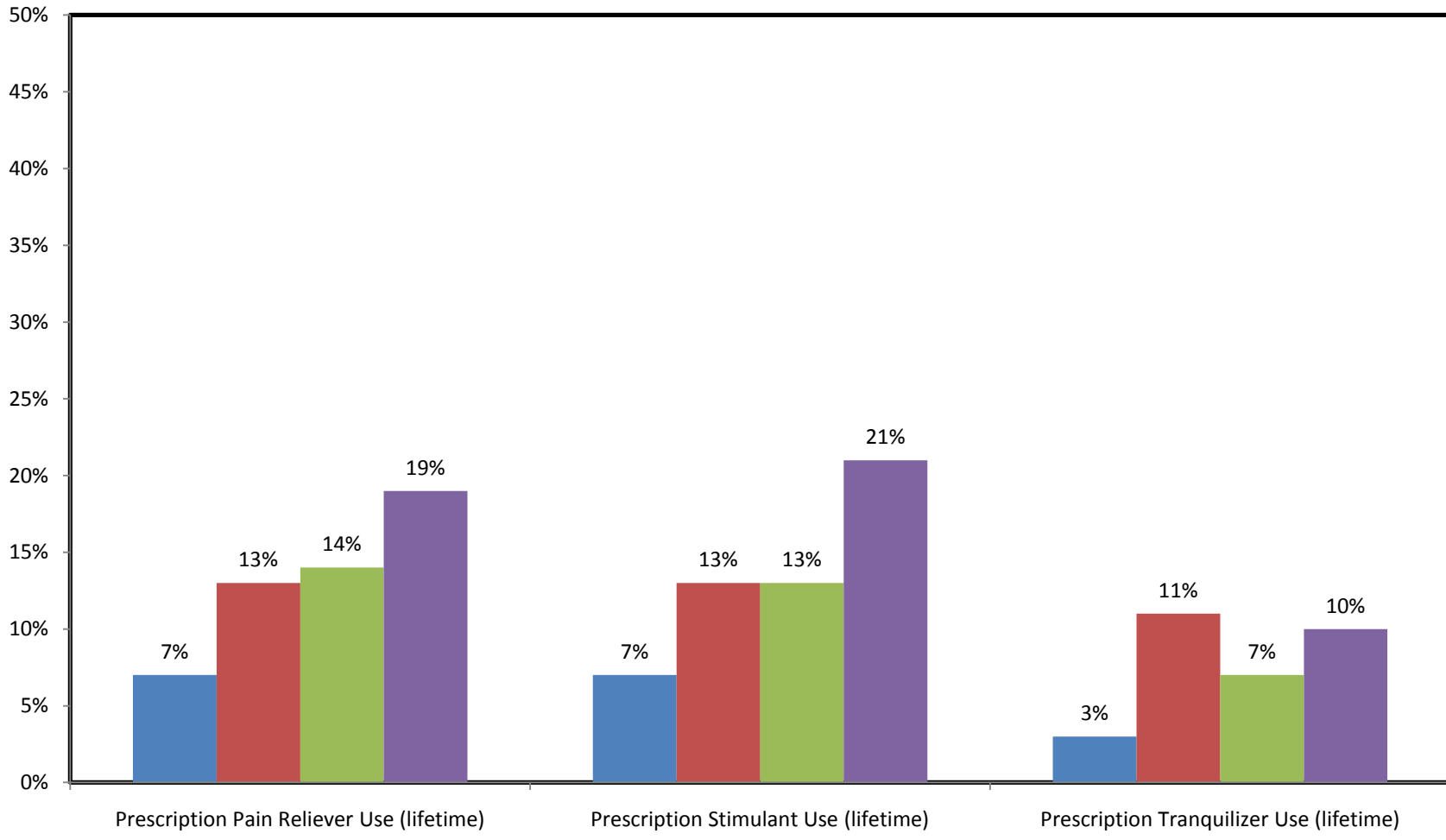


\*NA refers to data that is Not Available or Not Analyzed.

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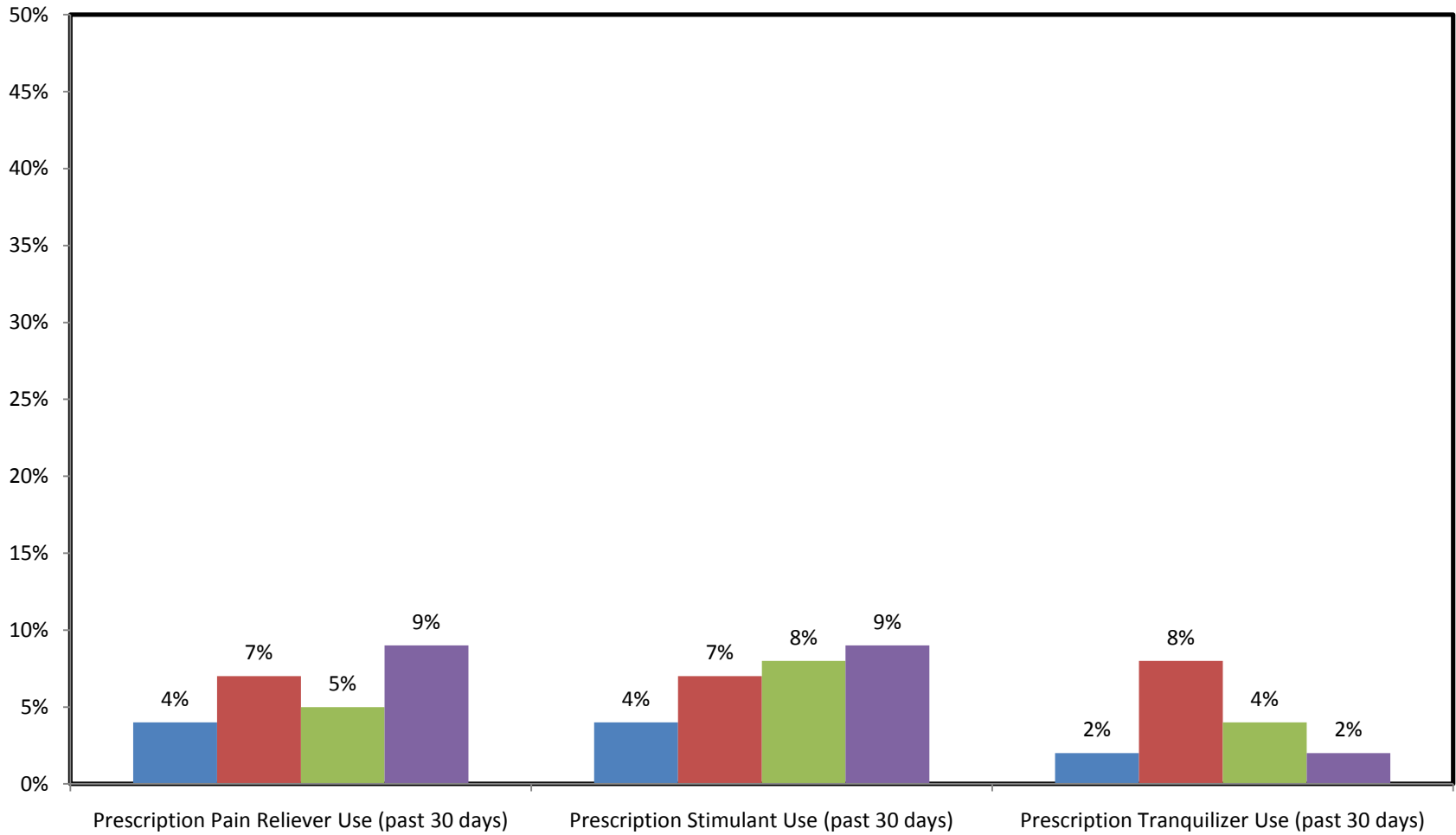
## Lifetime Prescription Drug Use (Type) By Grade, 2010

9th Grade 10th Grade 11th Grade 12th Grade

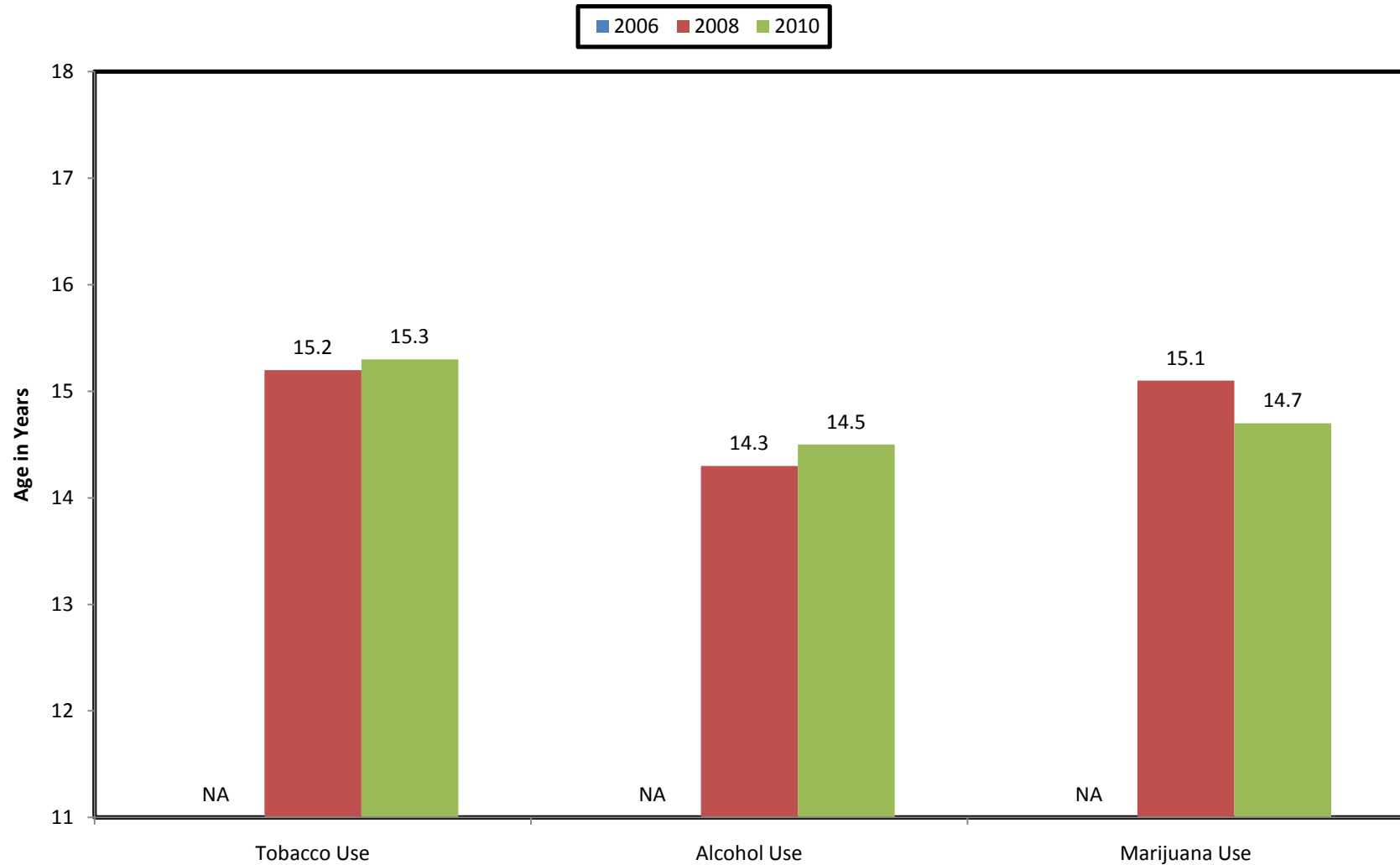


## Past 30-Day Prescription Drug Use (Type) By Grade, 2010

■ 9th Grade ■ 10th Grade ■ 11th Grade ■ 12th Grade



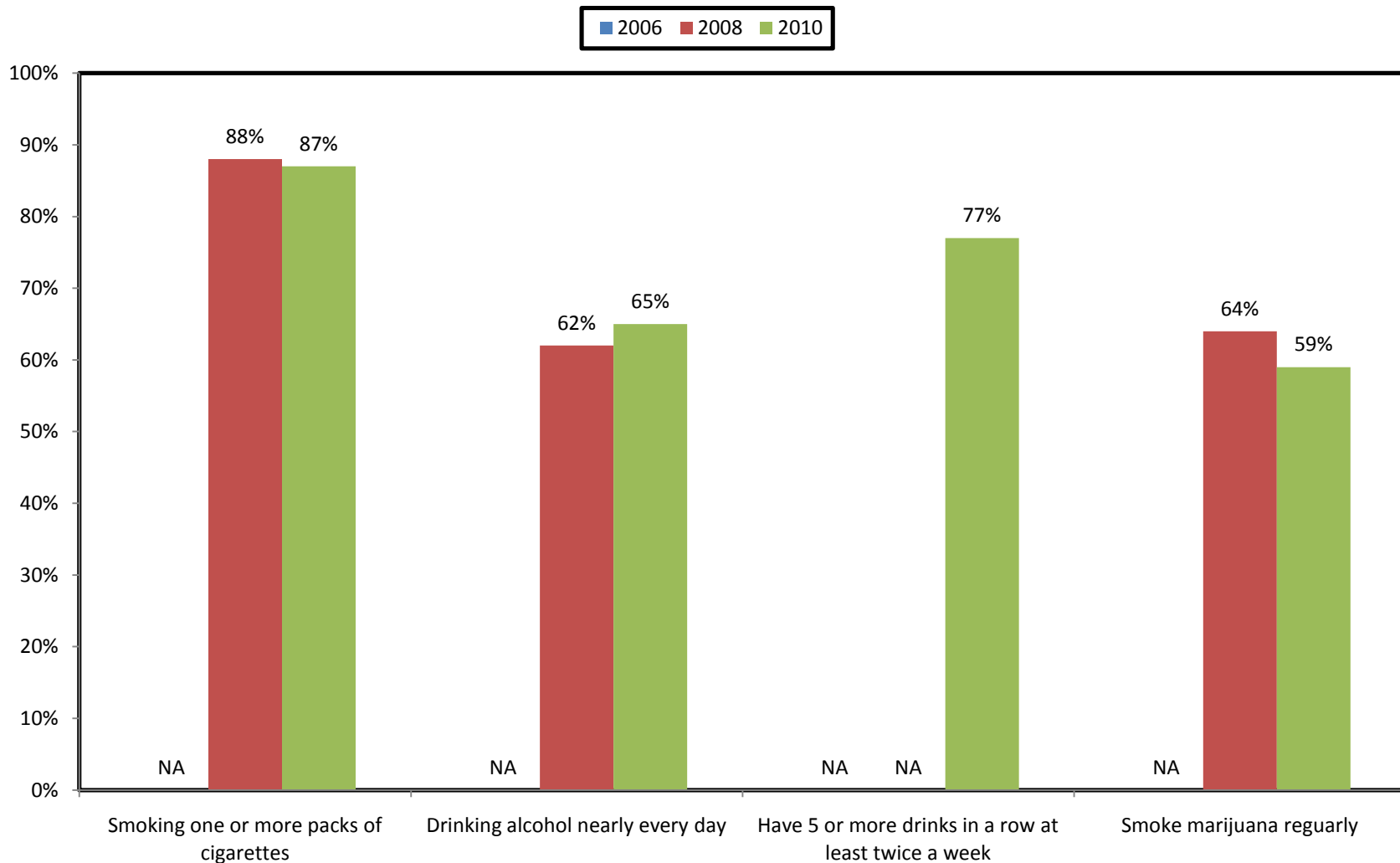
## Average Age of Onset By Year, 2006-2010



\*NA refers to data that is Not Available or Not Analyzed.

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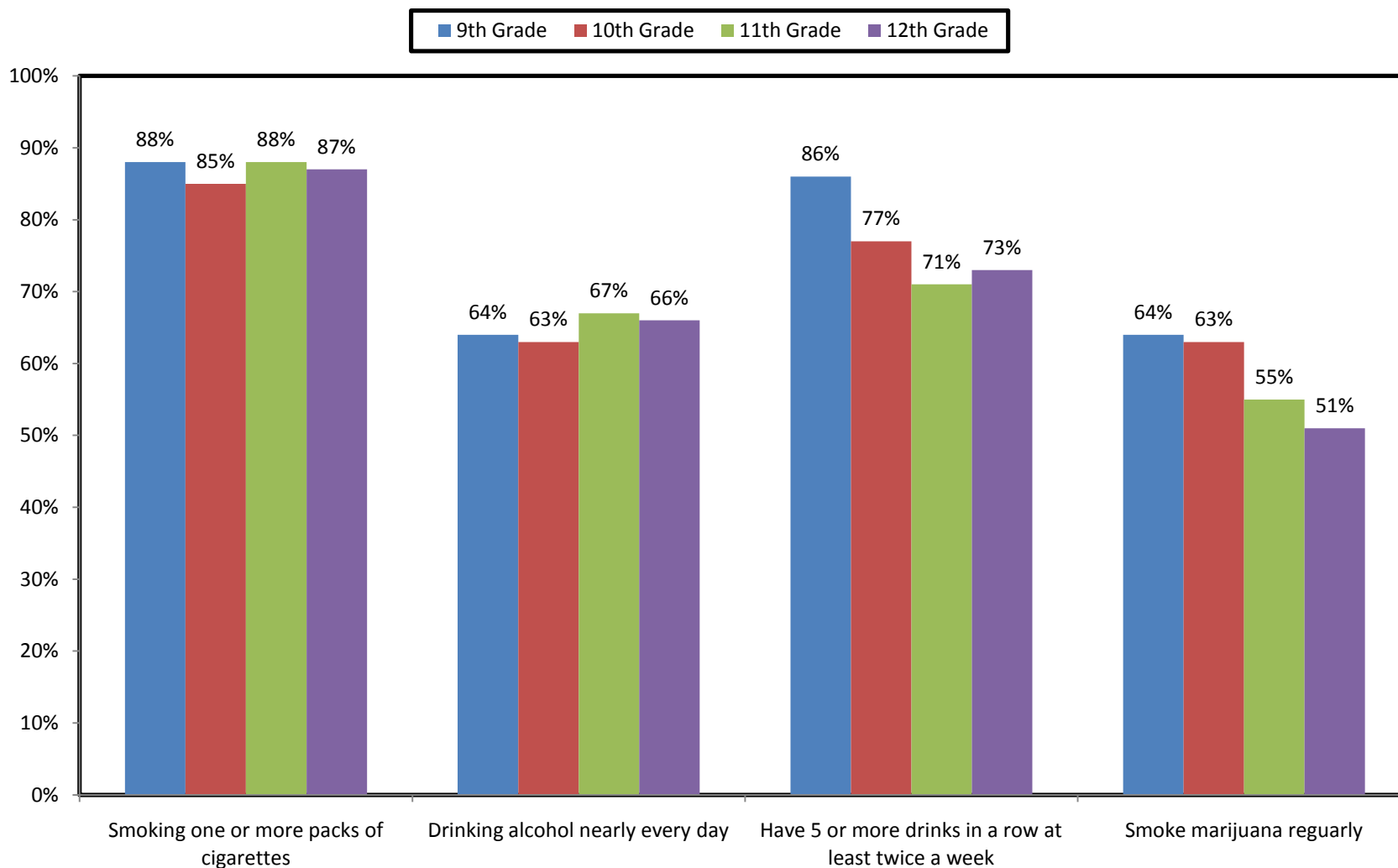
## Perception of Moderate or Great Risk of Harm By Year, 2006-2010



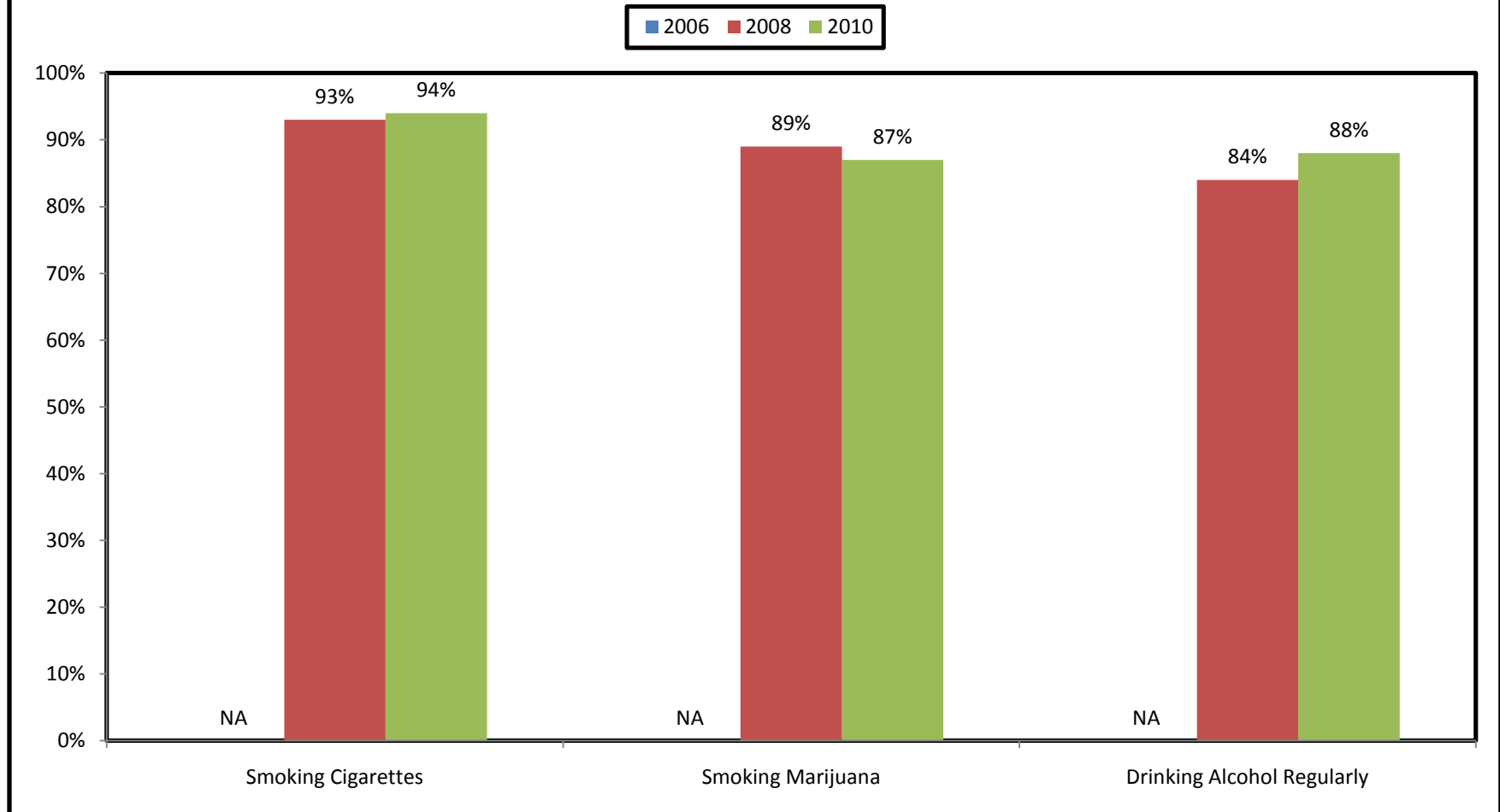
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## Perception of Moderate or Great Risk of Harm By Grade, 2010



## Perception of Parental Disapproval By Year, 2006-2010

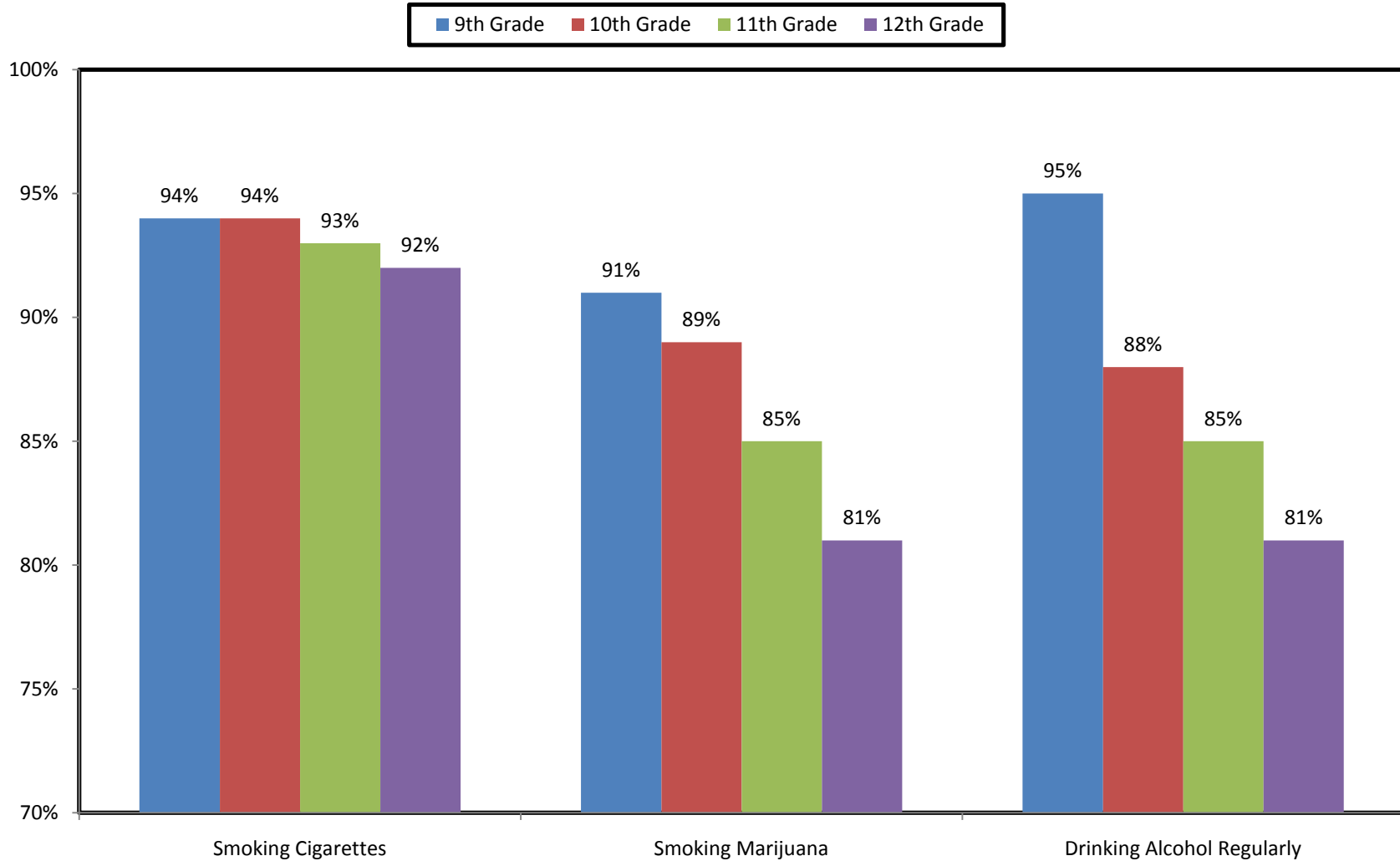


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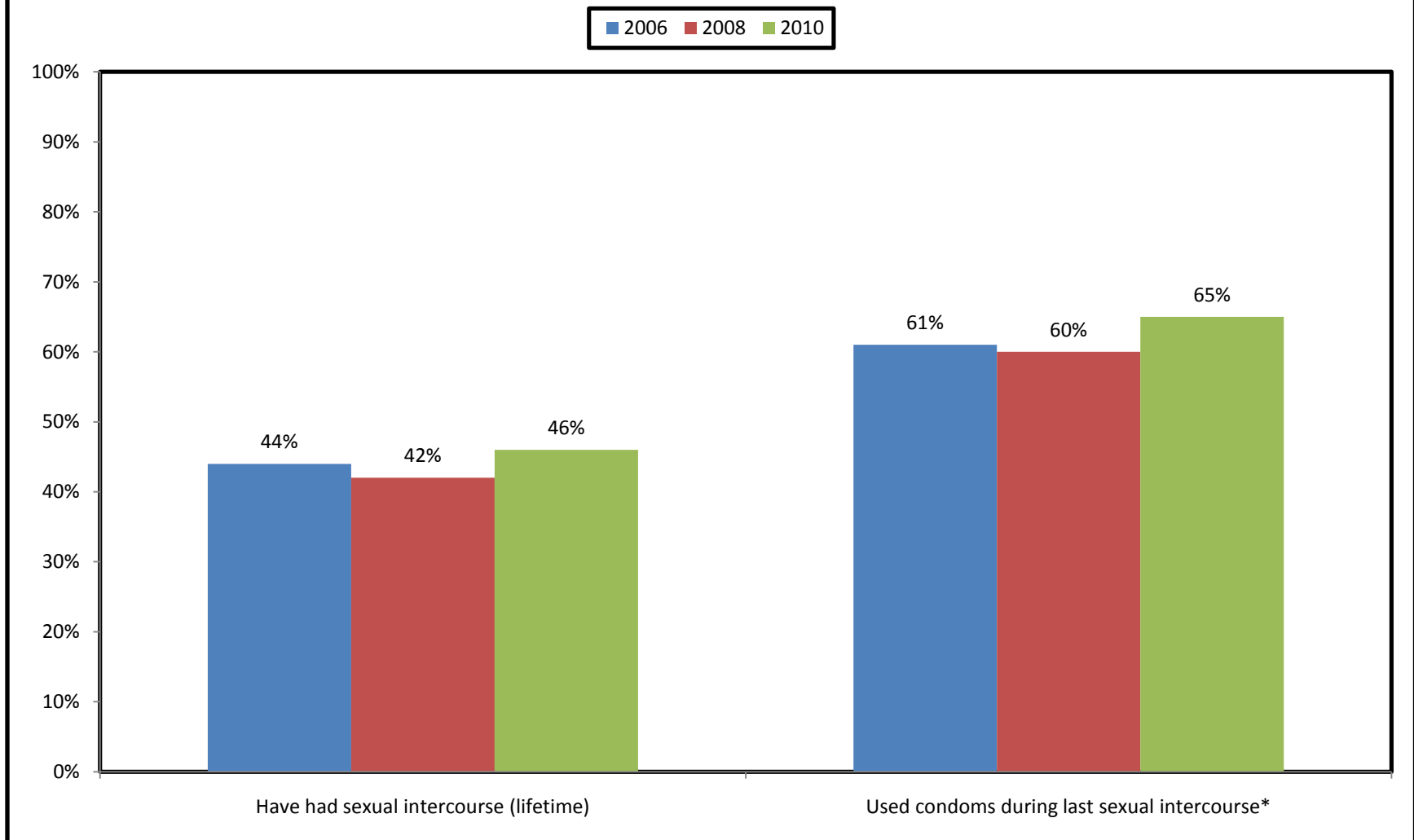
\*Percent is based on responses indicating parental disapproval wrong/ very wrong.

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## Perception of Parental Disapproval By Grade, 2010



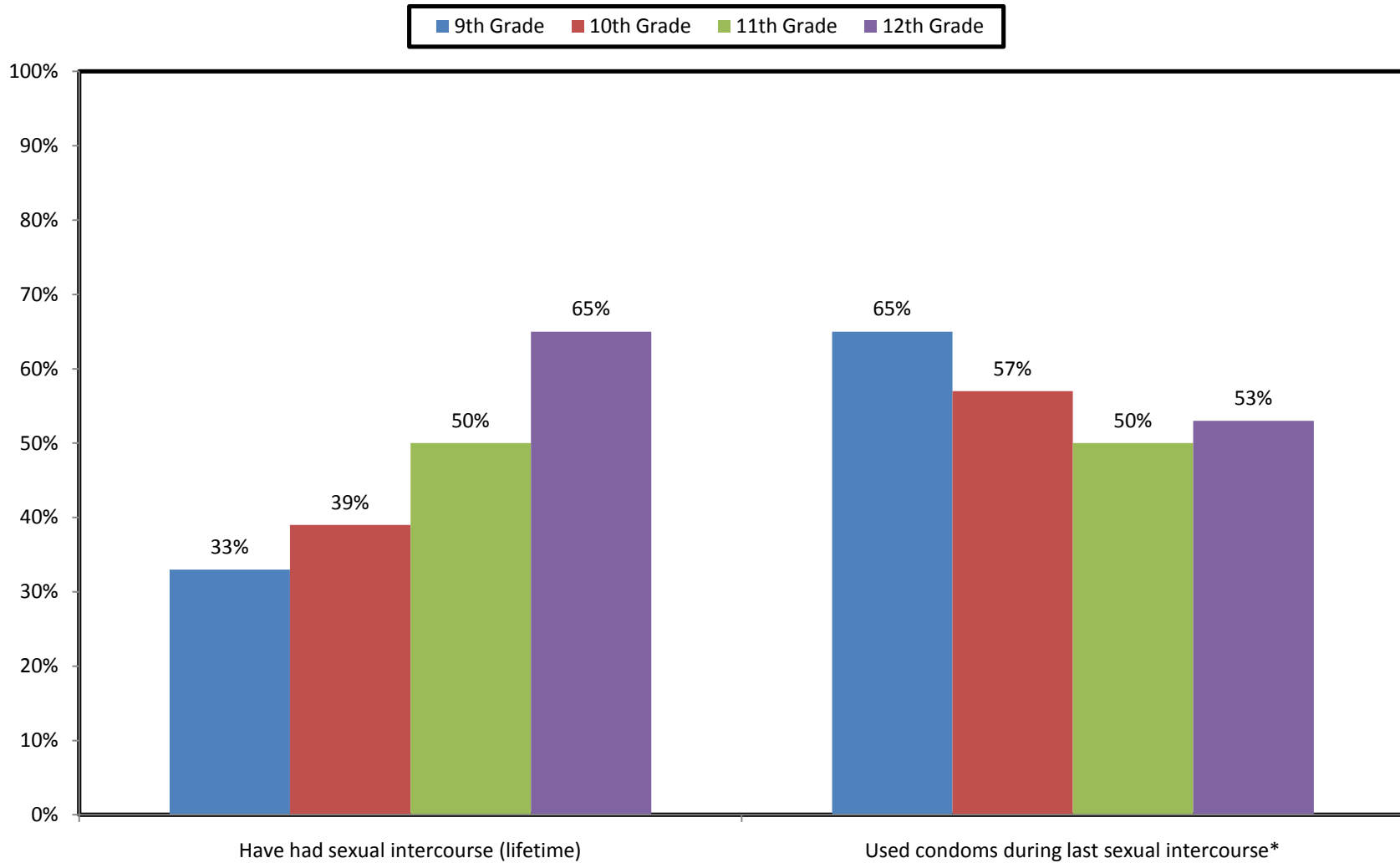
## Sexual Behaviors By Year, 2006-2010



\*Of those who have had sexual intercourse.

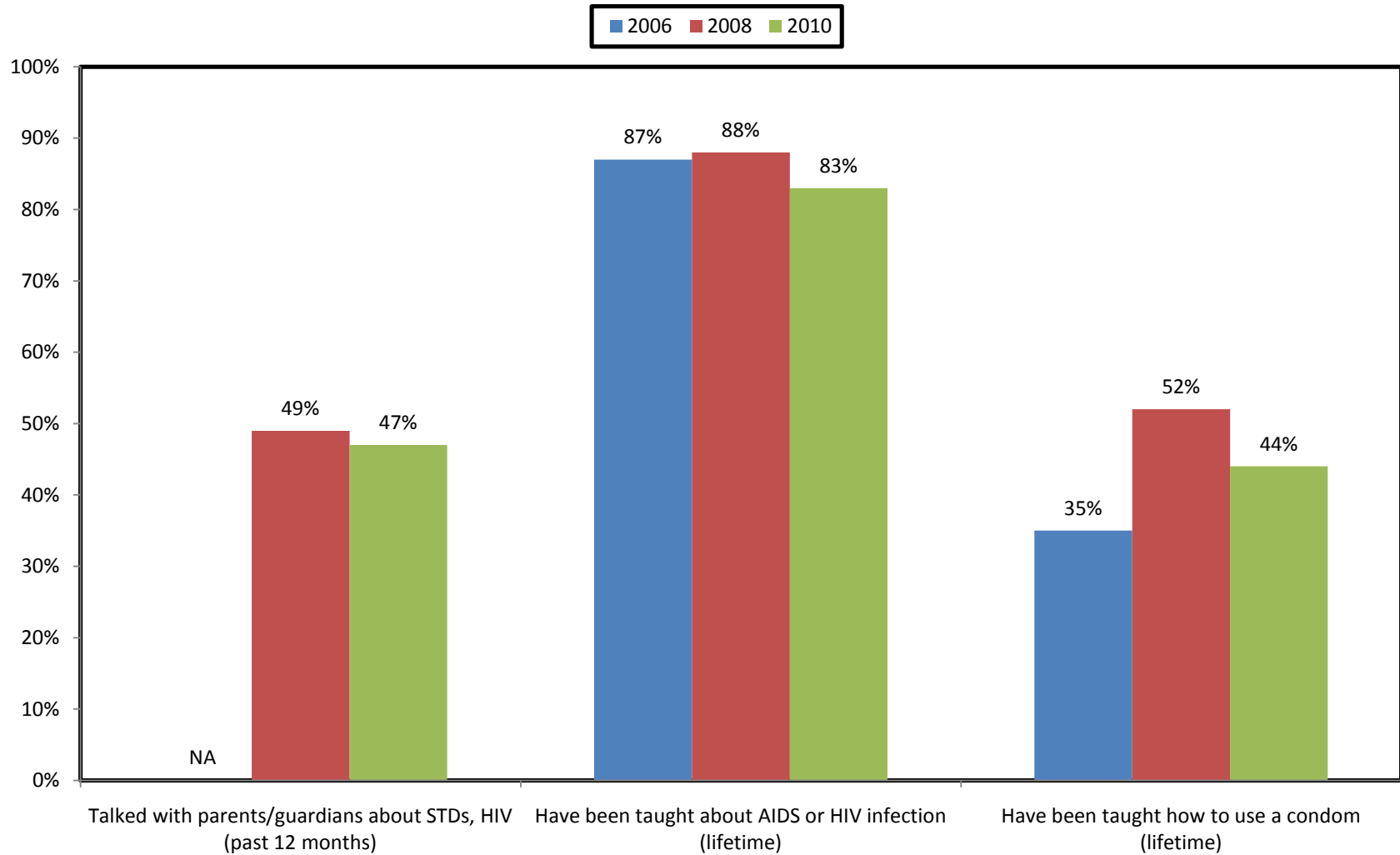
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## Sexual Behaviors By Grade, 2010



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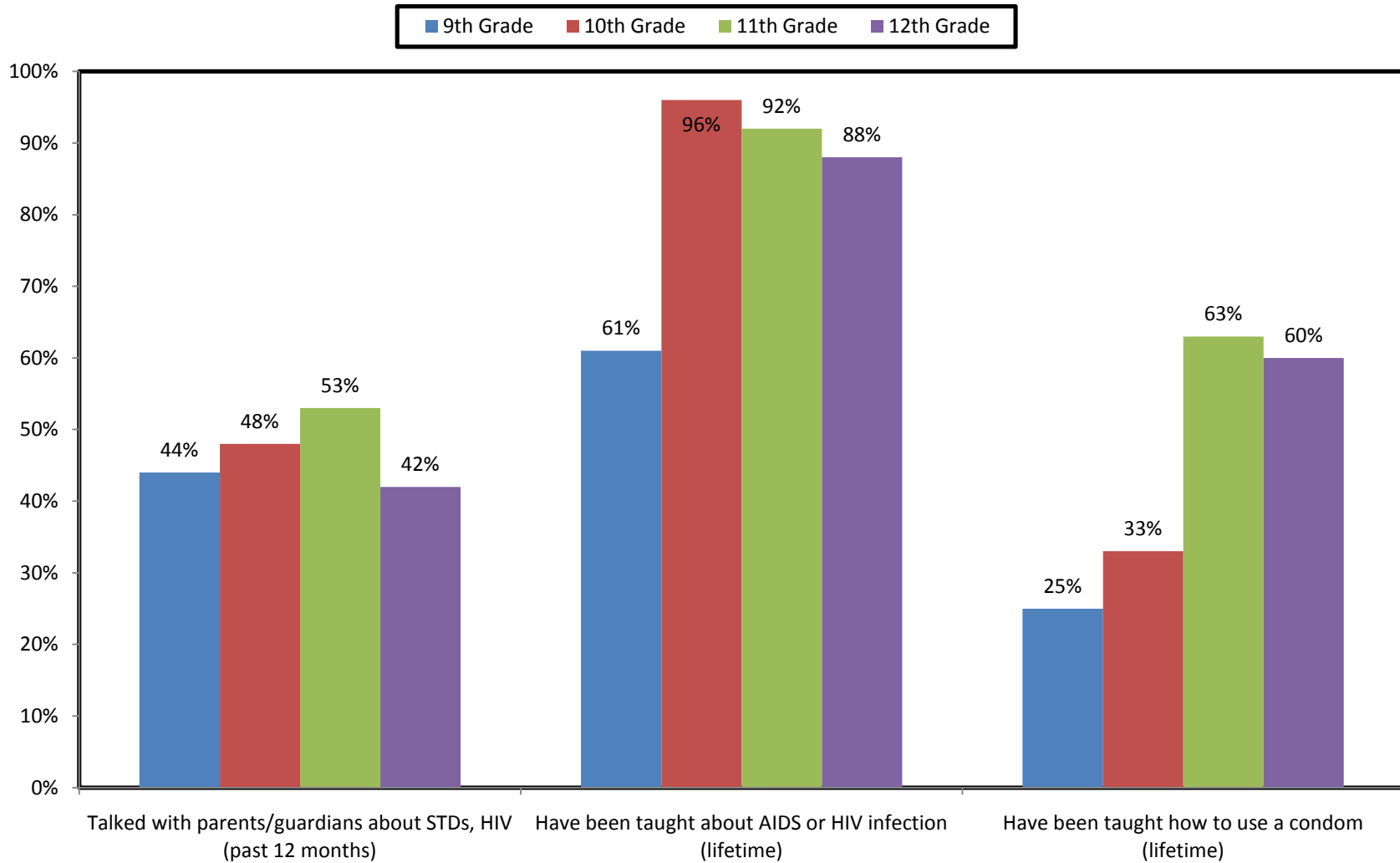
## Pregnancy and HIV/AIDS Prevention By Year, 2006-2010



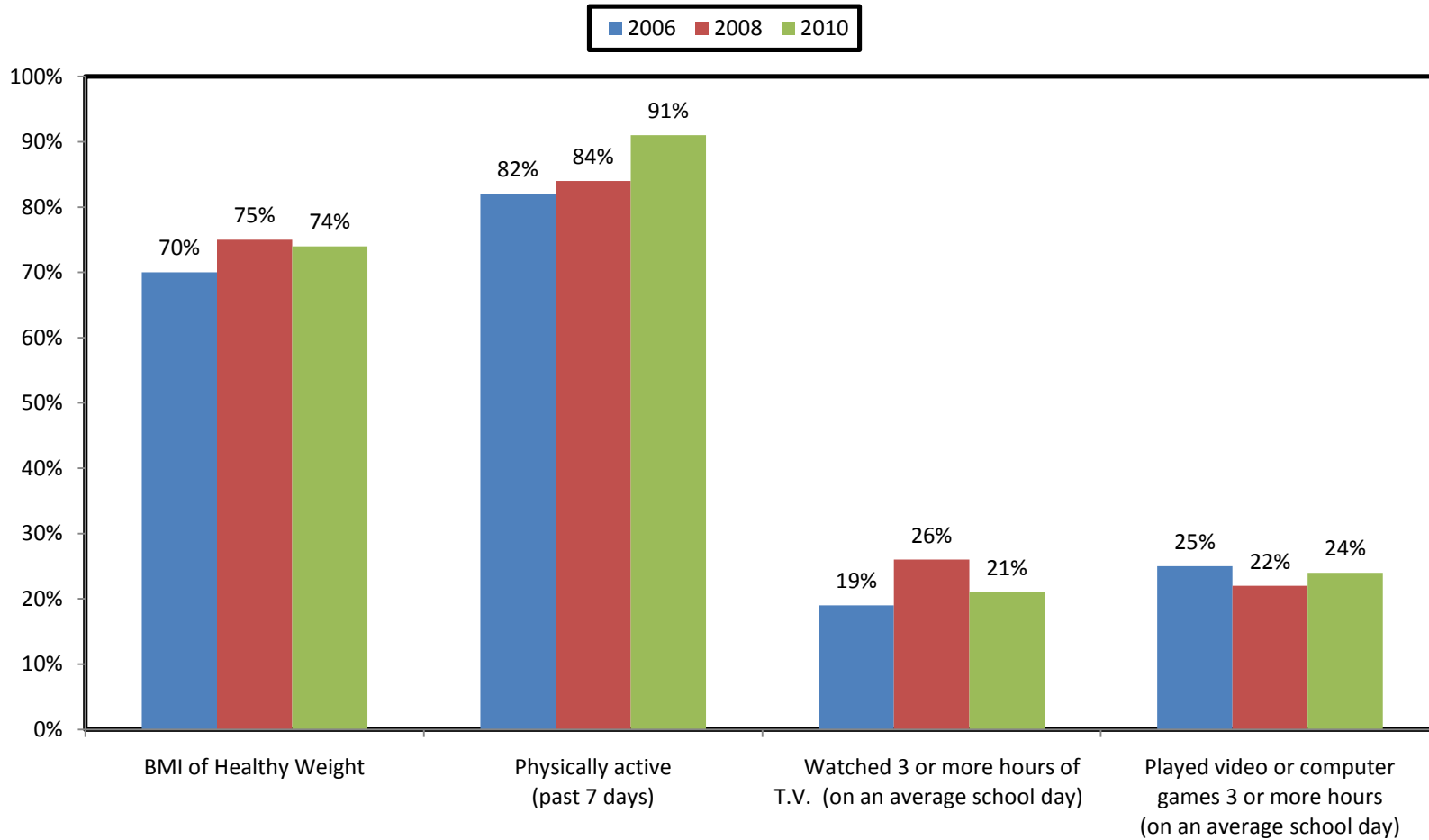
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## Pregnancy and HIV/AIDS Prevention By Grade, 2010

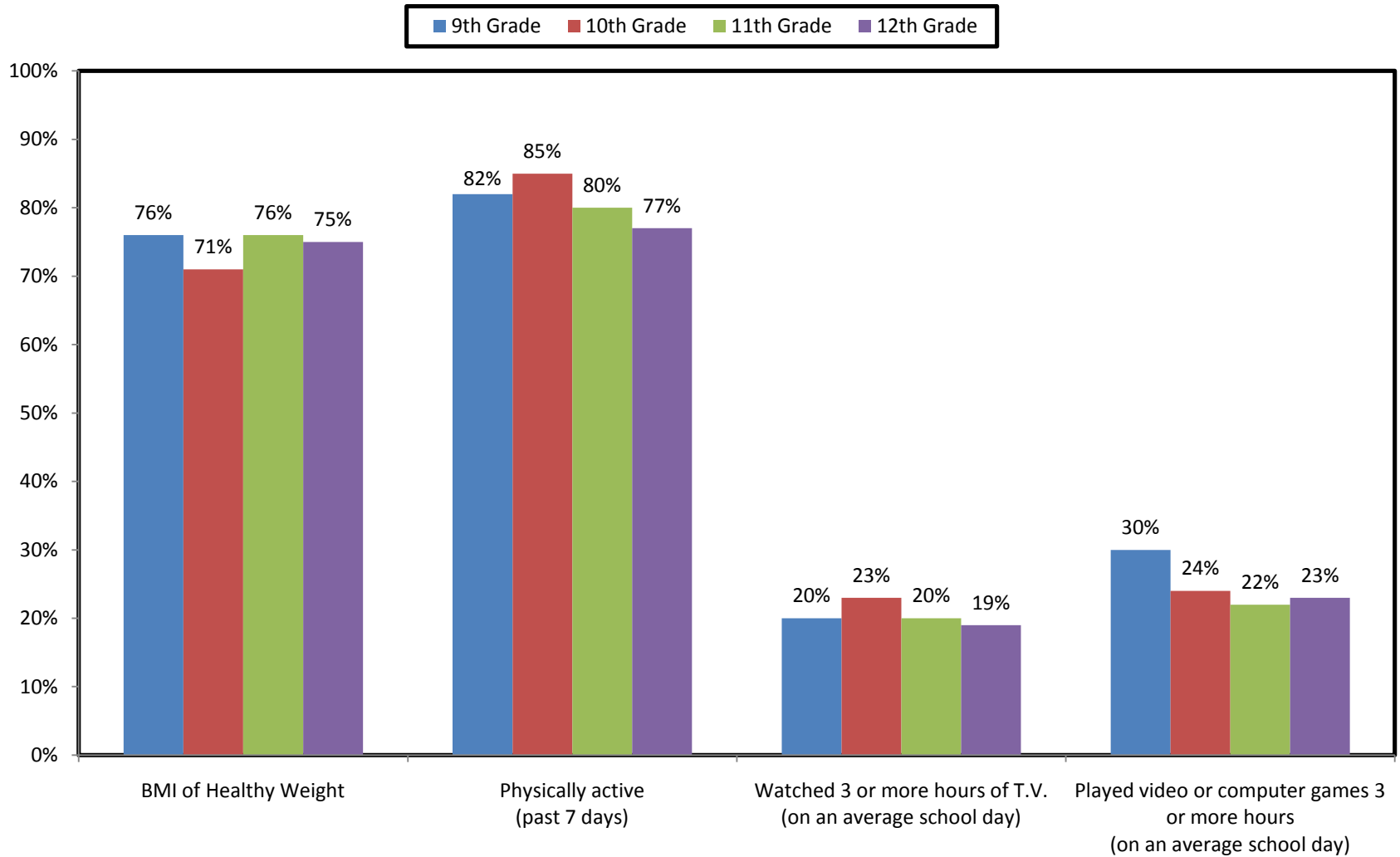


## Body Image, Physical Activity and Screen Time By Year, 2006-2010

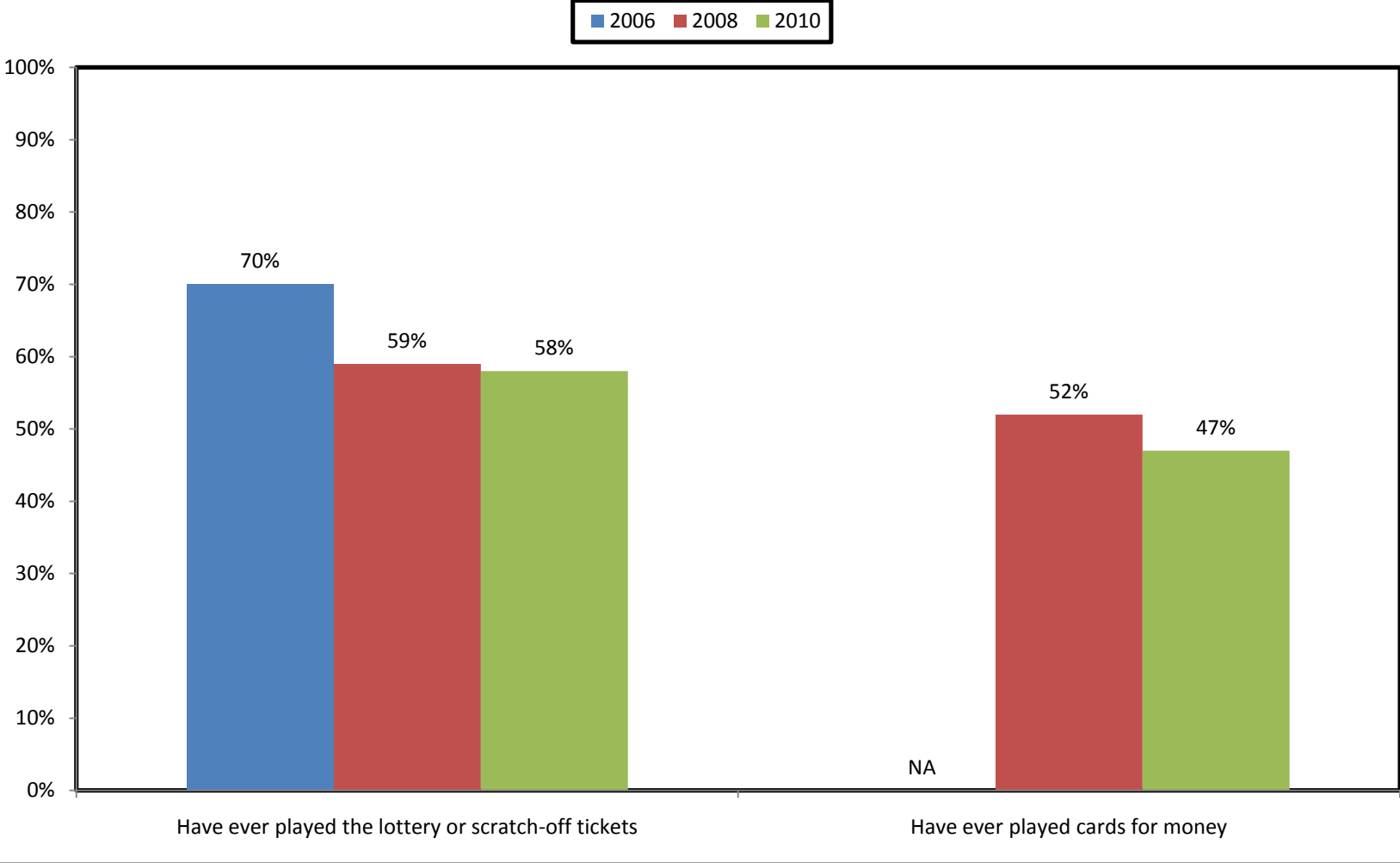


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## Body Image, Physical Activity and Screen Time By Grade, 2010



### Gambling By Year, 2006-2010

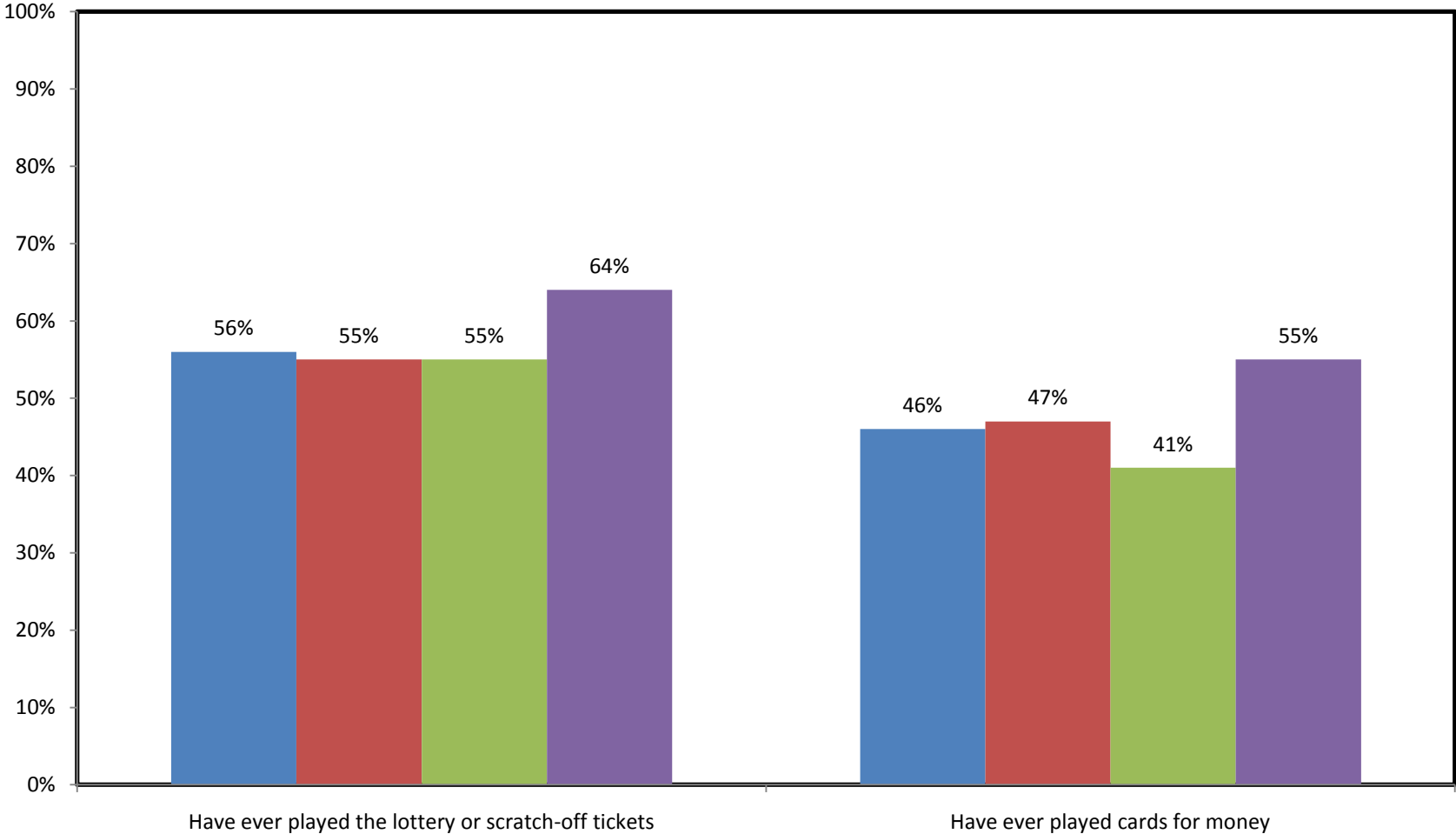


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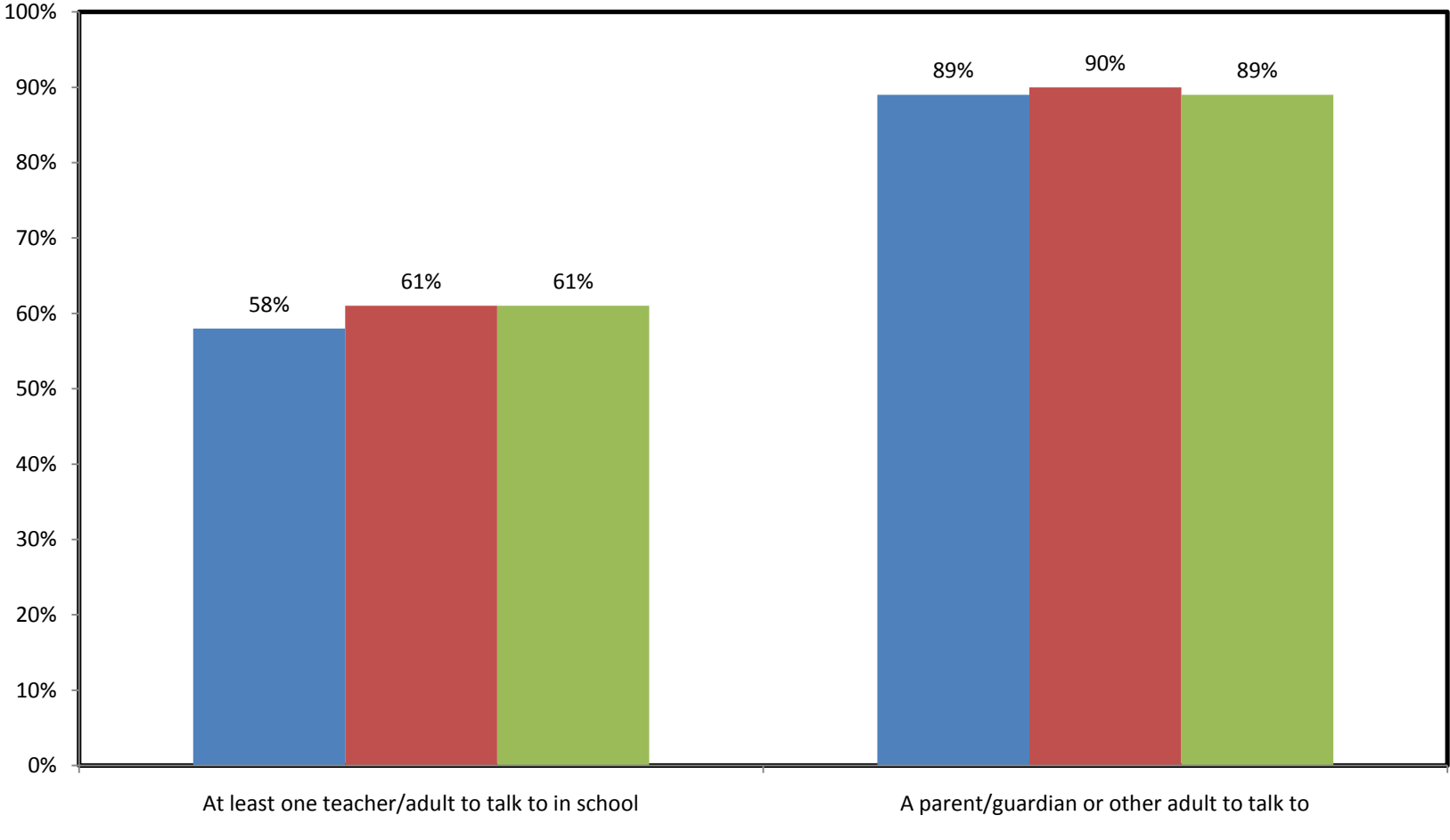
# Gambling By Grade, 2010

9th Grade 10th Grade 11th Grade 12th Grade



### Protective Factors By Year, 2006-2010

■ 2006 ■ 2008 ■ 2010



\*Only 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders were surveyed in 2006, making it difficult to make true comparisons to 2008 and 2010.

### Protective Factors By Grade, 2010

■ 9th Grade ■ 10th Grade ■ 11th Grade ■ 12th Grade

