

DANVERS MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOR SURVEY

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 501 students in 7th - 8th grades. This represents a 79% response rate.

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

Grade	Number Surveyed	Number Enrolled	% Respondents
7 th	284	344	83%
8 th	211	291	73%
Ungraded or missing	6	-	-
Totals	501	635	79%

SURVEY METHODS

The 2010 Danvers Middle School YRBS Survey tool was adapted from the 2005 Massachusetts Department of Education (DOE) Youth Risk Behavior Survey and the 2007 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, six students responded to 'other' or 'ungraded' question therefore their surveys were omitted. Eleven 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. Comparisons for 2010 data are made to data for 2008 and 2006. Please note that when looking at trend data for 2006-2010, 6th and 8th graders were surveyed in 2006, while 7th and 8th graders were surveyed in 2008 and 2010. The Excel file of raw data and frequency and crosstab tables are included in the Appendices.

RESULTS

Behaviors Related to Unintentional Injuries

- Fifty-eight percent (58%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported always wearing a seat belt when riding in a car, compared to 56% in 2008, and 57% of Danvers 6th and 8th graders in 2006.
- Twenty percent (20%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported always wearing a helmet when riding a bike, unchanged from 20% in 2008, and compared to 19% of Danvers 6th and 8th graders in 2006.
- Twenty-six percent (26%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported ever riding in a car driven by someone who had been drinking alcohol, compared to 25% in 2008, and 19% of Danvers 6th and 8th graders in 2006.

Violence – Related Behaviors and Experiences

- Twenty-four percent (24%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported carrying a weapon in their lifetime, compared to 19% in 2008, and 22% of Danvers 6th and 8th graders in 2006.
- Forty-one percent (41%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported being in a physical fight in their lifetime, unchanged from 41% in 2008, and compared to 45% of Danvers 6th and 8th graders in 2006.
- Seven percent (7%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported being in a physical fight in their lifetime in which they had been treated by a doctor or nurse, compared to 5% in 2008, and 7% of Danvers 6th and 8th graders in 2006.
- Four percent (4%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported being bullied more than once in the past couple of months (2010). Thirty-four percent (34%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported being bullied more than once in the past 12 months, compared to 31% of Danvers 6th and 8th graders in 2006.

Suicidal Thinking and Behaviors

- Fourteen percent (14%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported seriously considering suicide in their lifetime, unchanged from 14% in 2008, and compared to 15% of Danvers 6th and 8th graders in 2006.
- Seven percent (7%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported making a plan to commit suicide in their lifetime, unchanged from 7% in 2008, and compared to 7% of Danvers 6th and 8th graders in 2006.
- Three percent (3%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported attempting suicide in their lifetime, compared to 5% in 2008, and 7% of Danvers 6th and 8th graders in 2006.

Tobacco Use

- Sixteen percent (16%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported smoking cigarettes in their lifetime, compared to 15% in 2008, and 11% of Danvers 6th and 8th graders in 2006.
- Seven percent (7%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported smoking cigarettes during the past 30 days, compared to 5% in 2008, and 2% of Danvers 6th and 8th graders in 2006.
- Seven percent (7%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported first smoking cigarettes prior to age 13, compared to 6% in 2008, and 5% of Danvers 6th and 8th graders in 2006.
- Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported first cigarette use at an average age of 12.8 years, unchanged from 12.8 years in 2008, and compared to 12.3 years in 2006.

Alcohol Use

- Twenty-six percent (26%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported drinking alcohol during their lifetime, compared to 27% of Danvers 7th and 8th graders in 2008, and 24% of Danvers 6th and 8th graders in 2006.
- Thirteen percent (13%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported smoking cigarettes during the past 30 days. (Question not asked in 2008 and 2006.)
- Fifteen percent (15%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported first alcohol use prior to age 13, compared to 16% in 2008, and 17% of Danvers 6th and 8th graders in 2006.
- Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported first alcohol use at an average age of 15.1 years, compared to 14.6 years in 2008 and compared to 12.0 in 2006.

Marijuana Use

- Thirteen percent (13%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported using marijuana in their lifetime, compared to 7% in 2008, and 8% of Danvers 6th and 8th graders in 2006.
- Six percent (6%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported smoking cigarettes during the past 30 days. (Question not asked in 2008 and 2006.)
- Six percent (6%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported first marijuana use prior to age 13, compared to 5% in 2008 and 3% of Danvers 6th and 8th graders in 2006.
- Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported first marijuana use at an average age of 14.0 years, compared to 14.5 in 2008 and 13.8 years in 2006.

Prescription Drug Use

- Three percent (3%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported using prescription pain relievers in their lifetime. (Question not asked in 2008 and 2006.)
- Three percent (3%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported using prescription stimulants in their lifetime. (Question not asked in 2008 and 2006.)
- One percent (1%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported using prescription tranquilizers in their lifetime. (Question not asked in 2008 and 2006.)

Perception of Risk of Harm

- Eighty-nine percent (89%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported moderate or great risk from smoking one or more packs of cigarettes, compared to 92% in 2008. (Question not asked in 2006.)
- Seventy percent (70%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported moderate or great risk from drinking alcohol nearly every day, compared to 73% in 2008. (Question not asked in 2006.)
- Eighty-eight percent (88%) of Danvers 7th and 8th 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 or 2006.)
- Eighty-five percent (85%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported moderate or great risk from smoking marijuana regularly, compared to 90% in 2008. (Question not asked in 2006.)

Perception of Parental Disapproval

- Ninety-seven percent (97%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported parental disapproval of smoking cigarettes. (Question not asked in 2008 and 2006.)
- Ninety-five percent (95%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported parental disapproval of smoking marijuana. (Question not asked in 2008 and 2006.)
- Ninety-eight percent (98%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported parental disapproval of drinking alcohol regularly. (Question not asked in 2008 and 2006.)

Sexual Behaviors, Pregnancy and HIV/AIDS Prevention

- Twelve percent (12%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported having sexual intercourse in their lifetime, compared to 11% in 2008, and 12% of Danvers 6th and 8th graders in 2006.
- Of Danvers 7th and 8th graders who reported ever having sexual intercourse, 48% reported using a condom the last time they had sexual intercourse, compared to 43% in 2008, and 41% of Danvers 6th and 8th graders in 2006.
- Forty-nine percent (49%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders have reported ever being taught about HIV/AIDS infection in school, compared to 25% in 2008, and 25% of Danvers 6th and 8th graders in 2006.

Body Image, Physical Activity and Screen Time

- Seventy percent (70%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders have a healthy BMI (not at risk of overweight), compared to 71% of 6th and 8th graders in 2006. (Data not comparable in 2008.)
- Ninety-seven percent (97%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported engaging in physical activity during the past 7 days, compared to 93% in 2008, and 93% of Danvers 6th and 8th graders in 2006.

- Twenty-two percent (22%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported watching television for 3 or more hours per day on an average school day, compared to 26% in 2008, and 31% of Danvers 6th and 8th graders in 2006.
- Twenty-one percent (21%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported playing video and computer games for 3 or more hours per day on an average school day, compared to 27% in 2008, and 23% of Danvers 6th and 8th graders in 2006.

Gambling

- Fifty-seven (57%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported ever playing scratch-off tickets, compared to 61% in 2008, and 64% of Danvers 6th and 8th graders in 2006.
- Thirty-four (34%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported ever playing cards for money, compared to 42% in 2008, and 51% of Danvers 6th and 8th graders in 2006.

Protective Factors

- Fifty-eight percent (58%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported having at least one teacher/adult to talk to in school, compared to 56% in 2008, and 54% of Danvers 6th and 8th graders in 2006.
- Ninety percent (90%) of Danvers 7th and 8th graders reported having a parent/guardian or other adult to talk to, compared to 87% in 2008, and 89% of Danvers 6th and 8th graders in 2006.

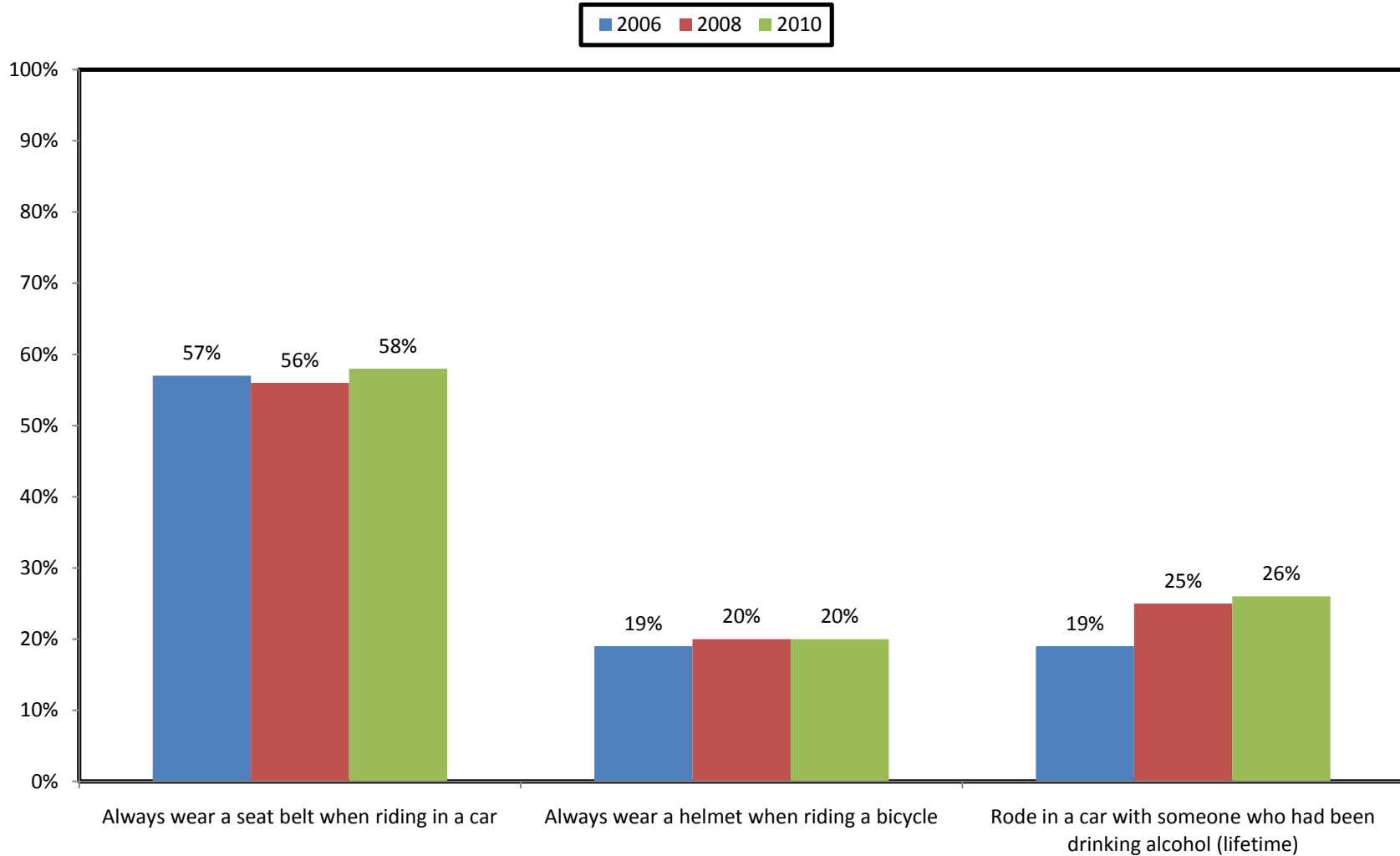
RECOMMENDATIONS

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 data. 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.

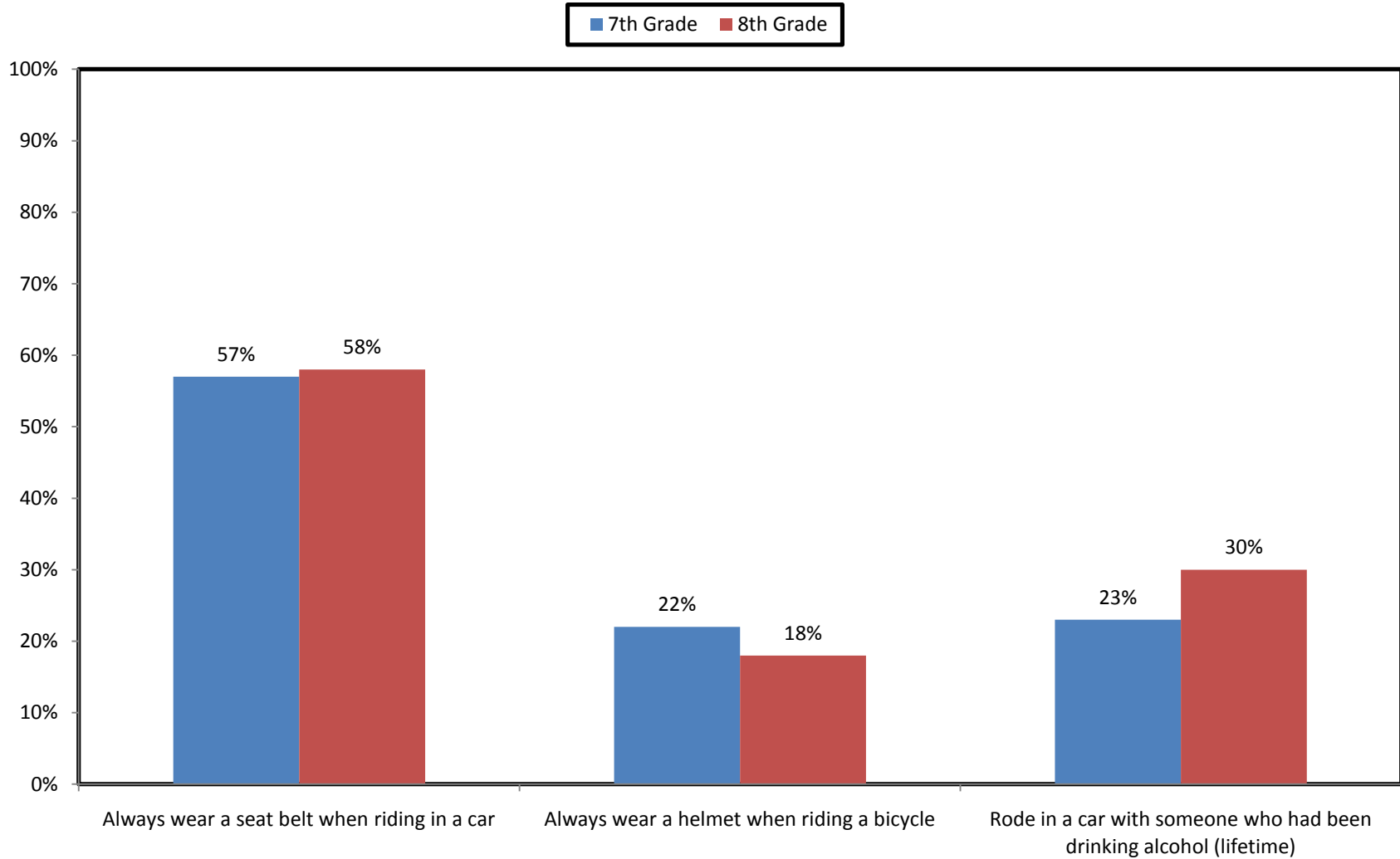
It is recommended that the program, curricula or strategies selected to address youth health issues, are research-based, or based in best practices in health promotion or prevention and evaluated for effectiveness. State agencies and departments such as the Regional Centers for Healthy Communities, the 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 6th – 12th 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.

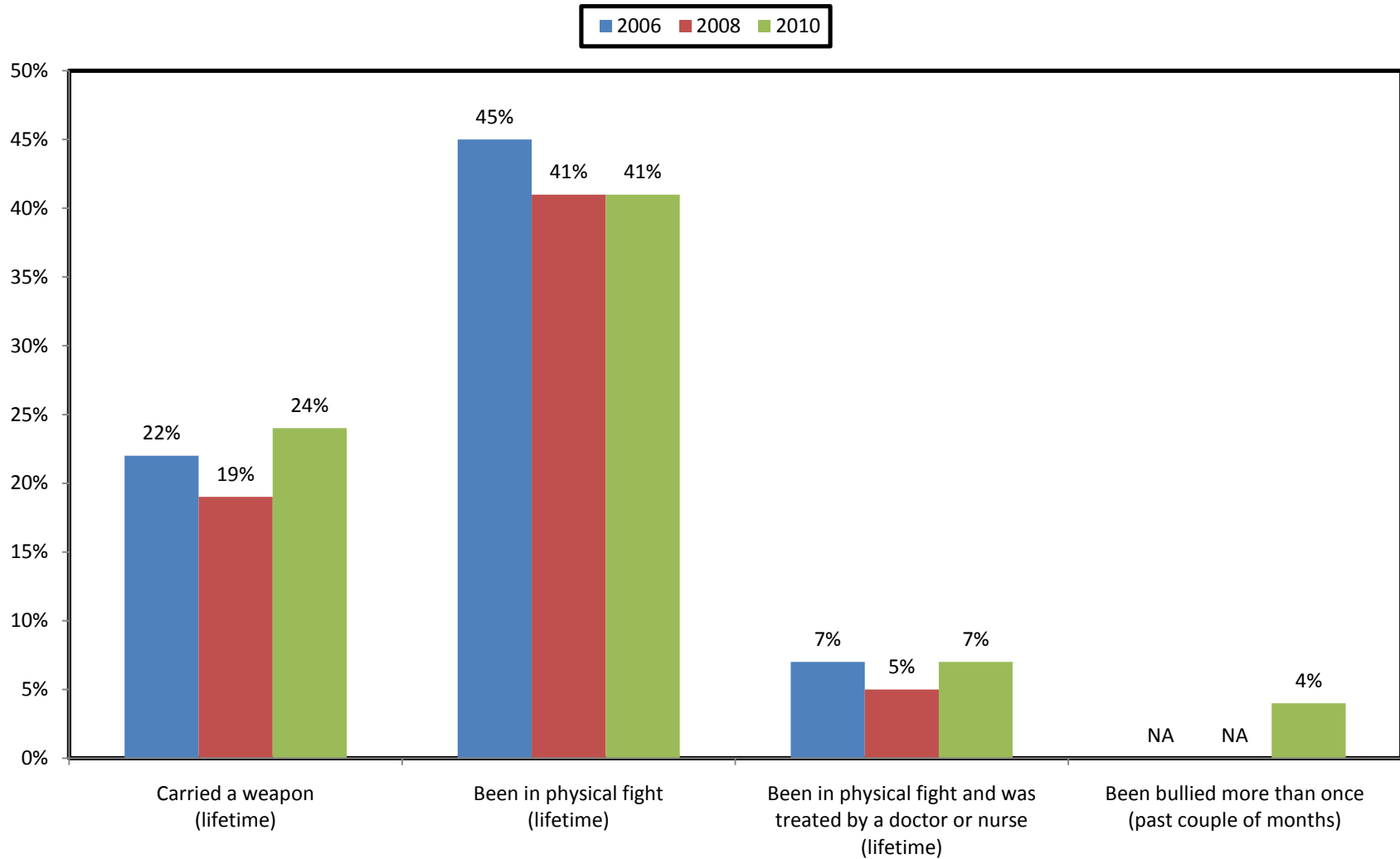
Behaviors Related to Unintentional Injuries By Year, 2006-2010



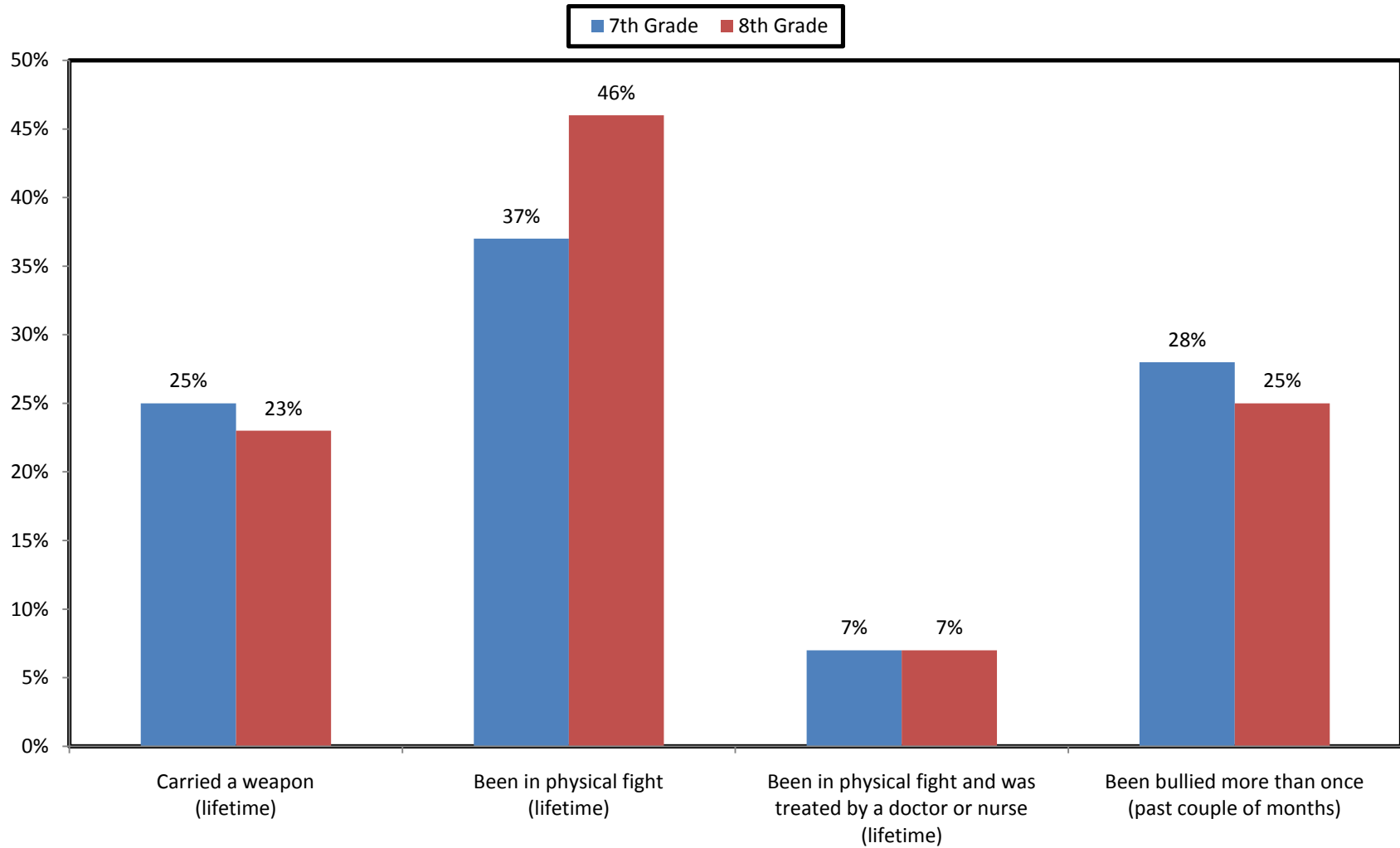
Behaviors Related to Unintentional Injuries By Grade, 2010



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

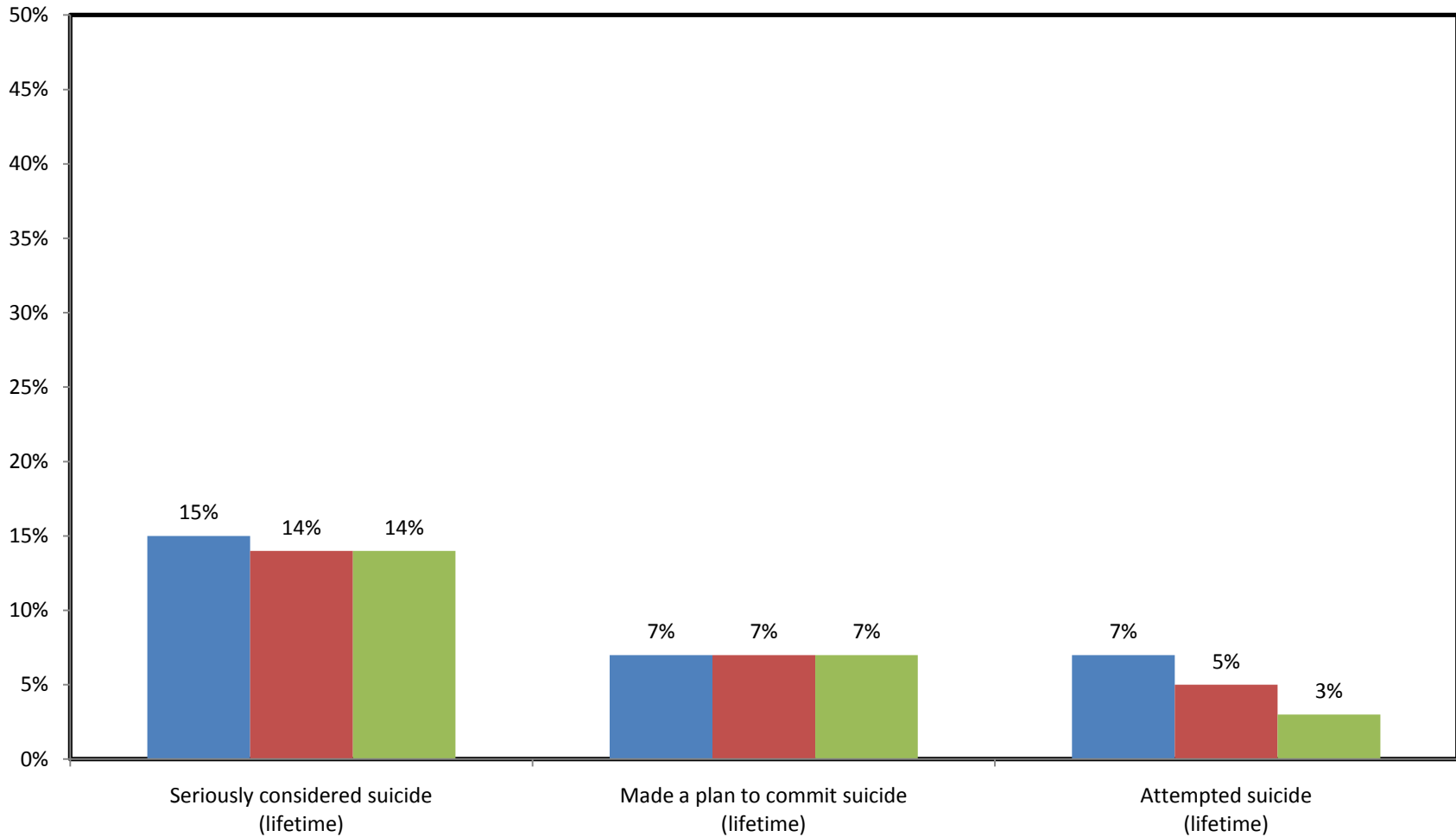


Violence-Related Behaviors and Experiences By Grade, 2010



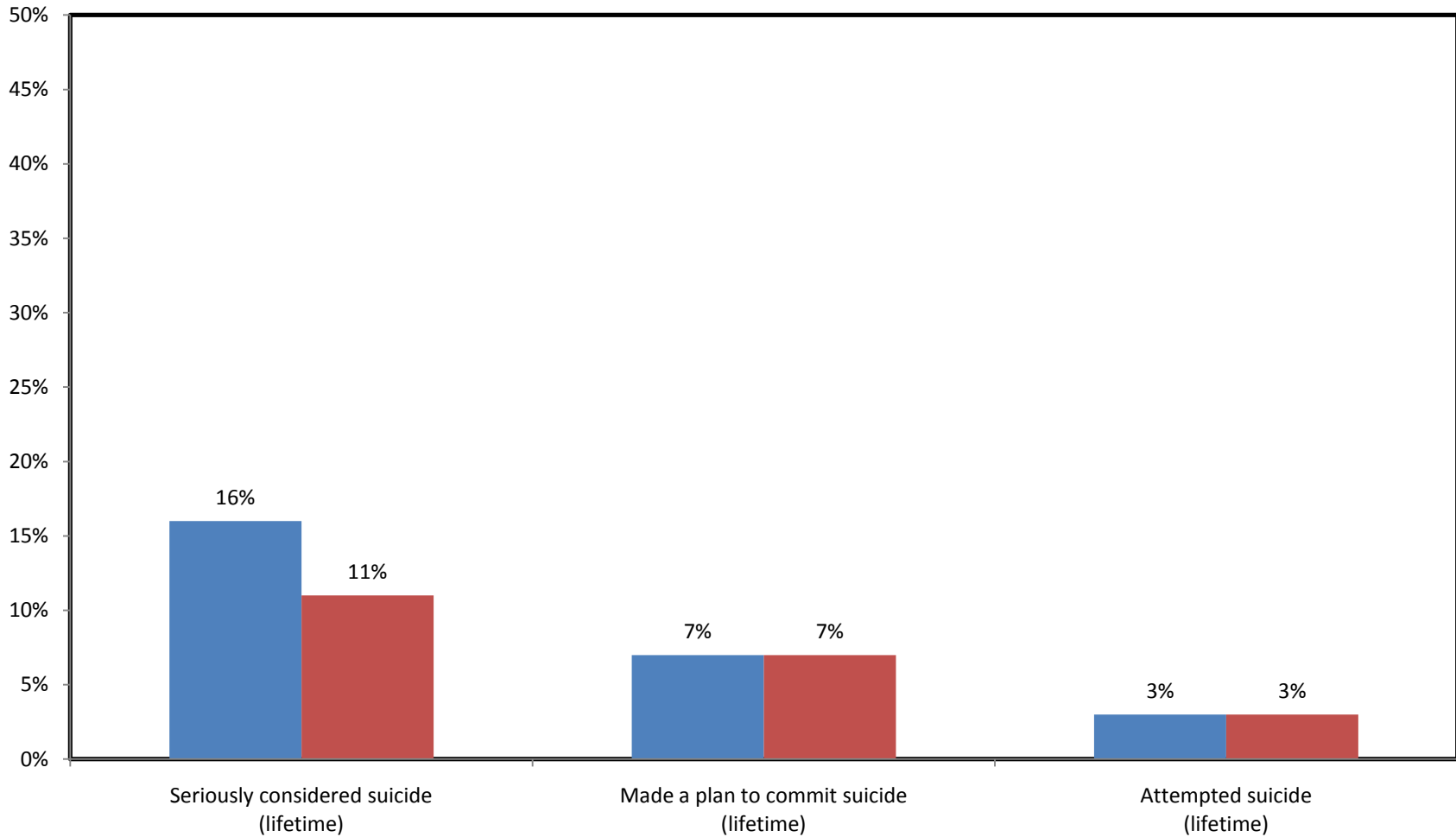
Suicidal Thinking and Behaviors By Year, 2006-2010

■ 2006 ■ 2008 ■ 2010



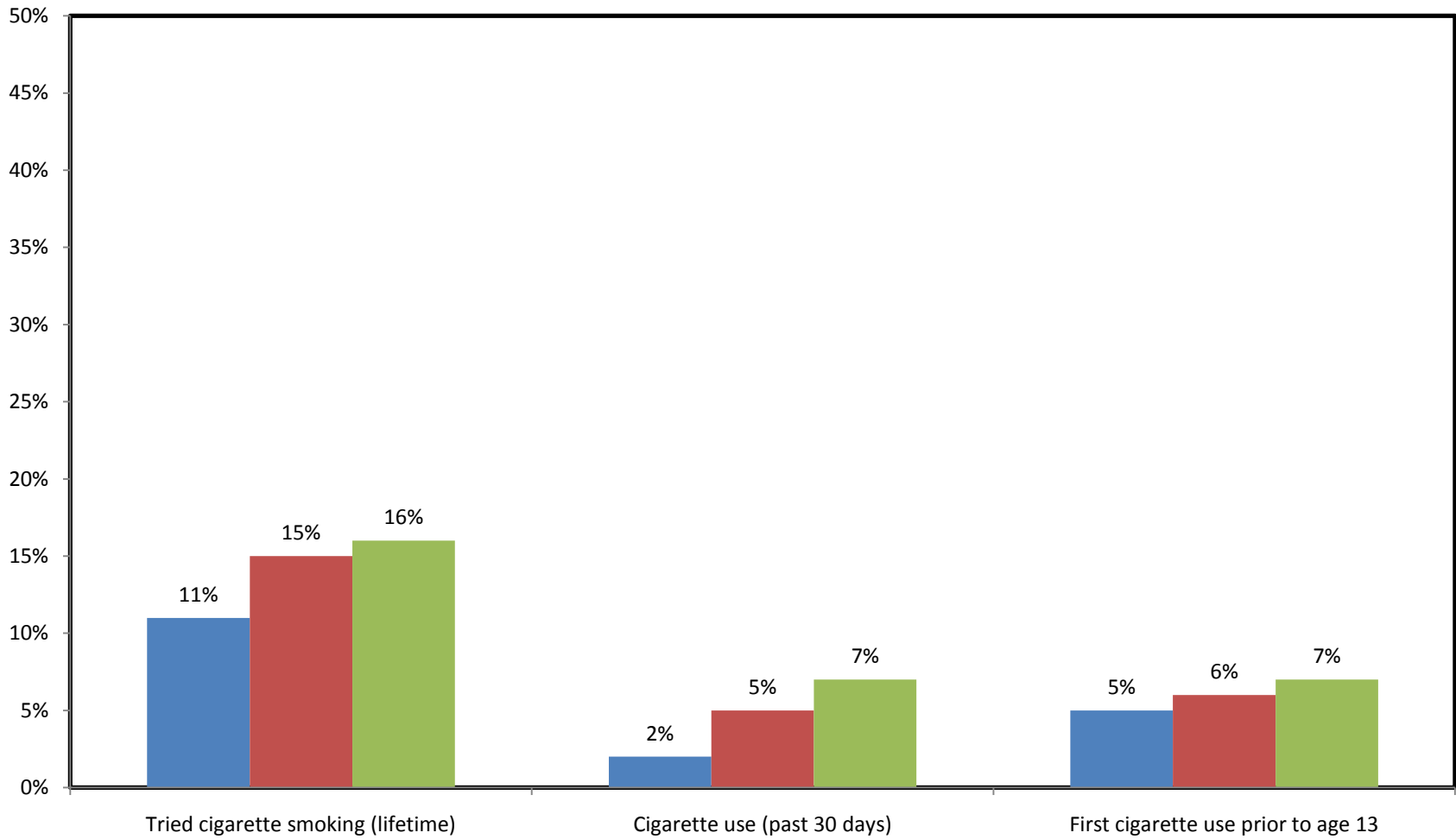
Suicidal Thinking and Behaviors By Grade, 2010

■ 7th Grade ■ 8th Grade



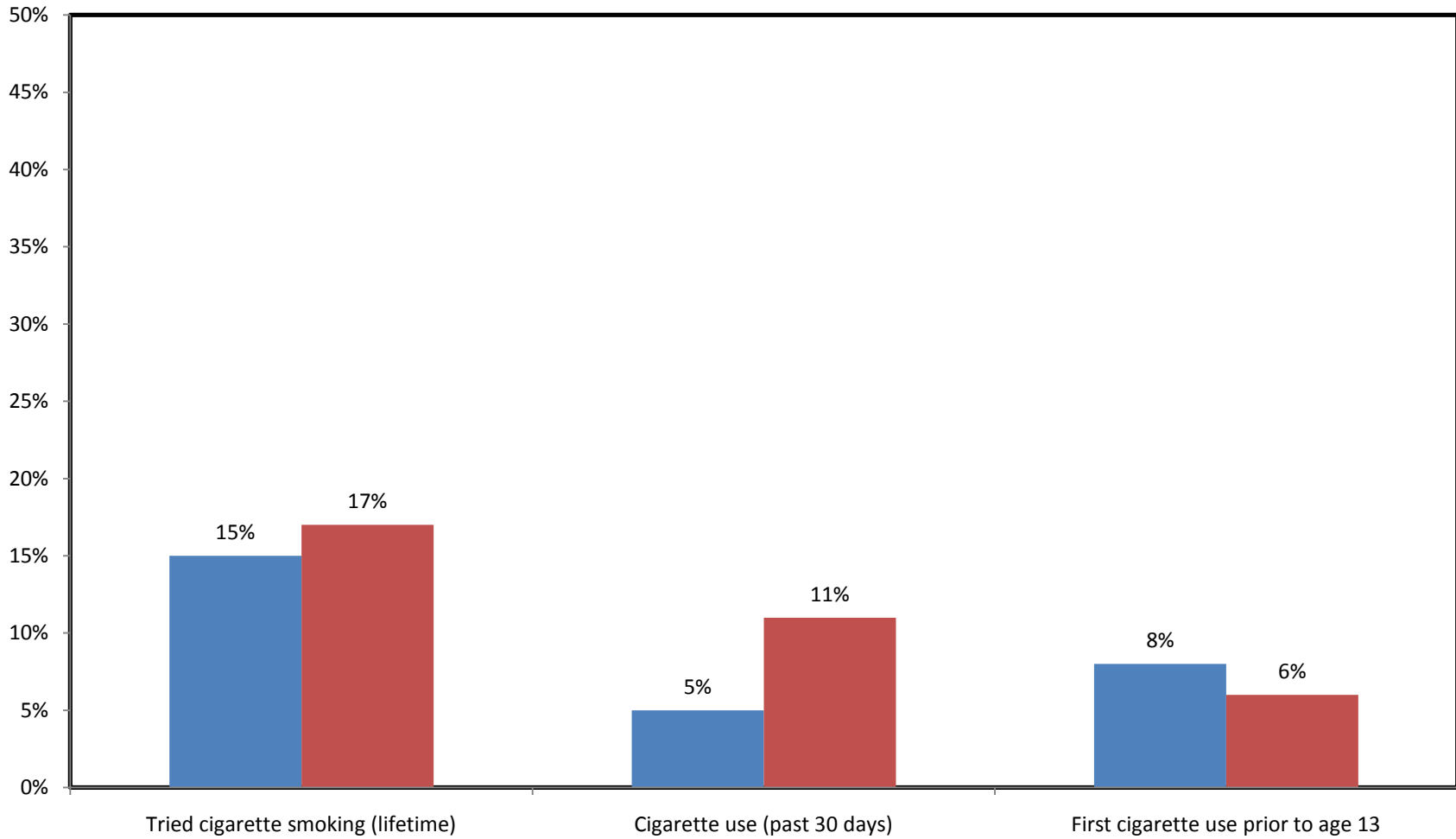
Tobacco Use By Year, 2006-2010

■ 2006 ■ 2008 ■ 2010

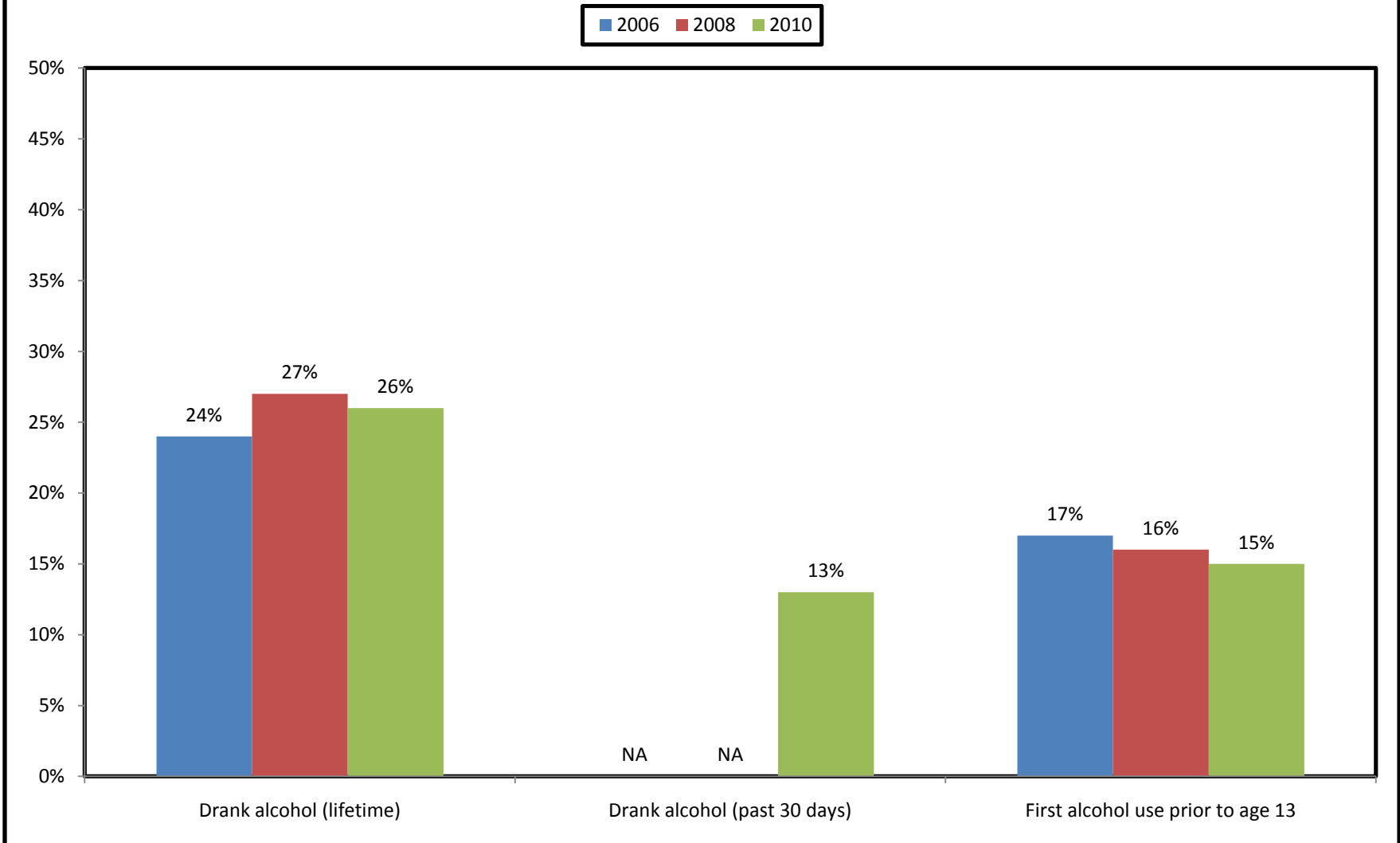


Tobacco Use By Grade, 2010

■ 7th Grade ■ 8th Grade



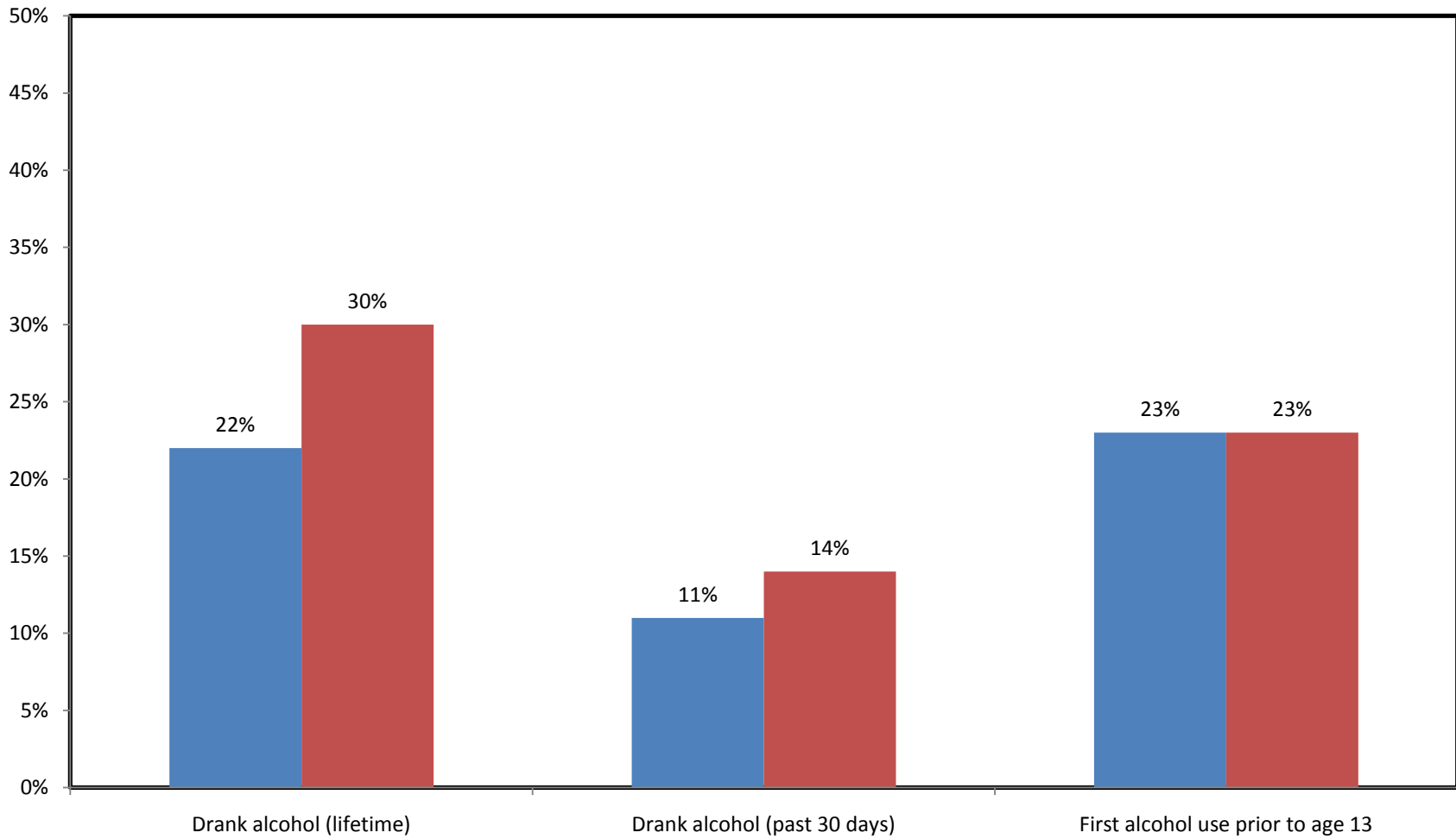
Alcohol Use By Year, 2006-2010



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

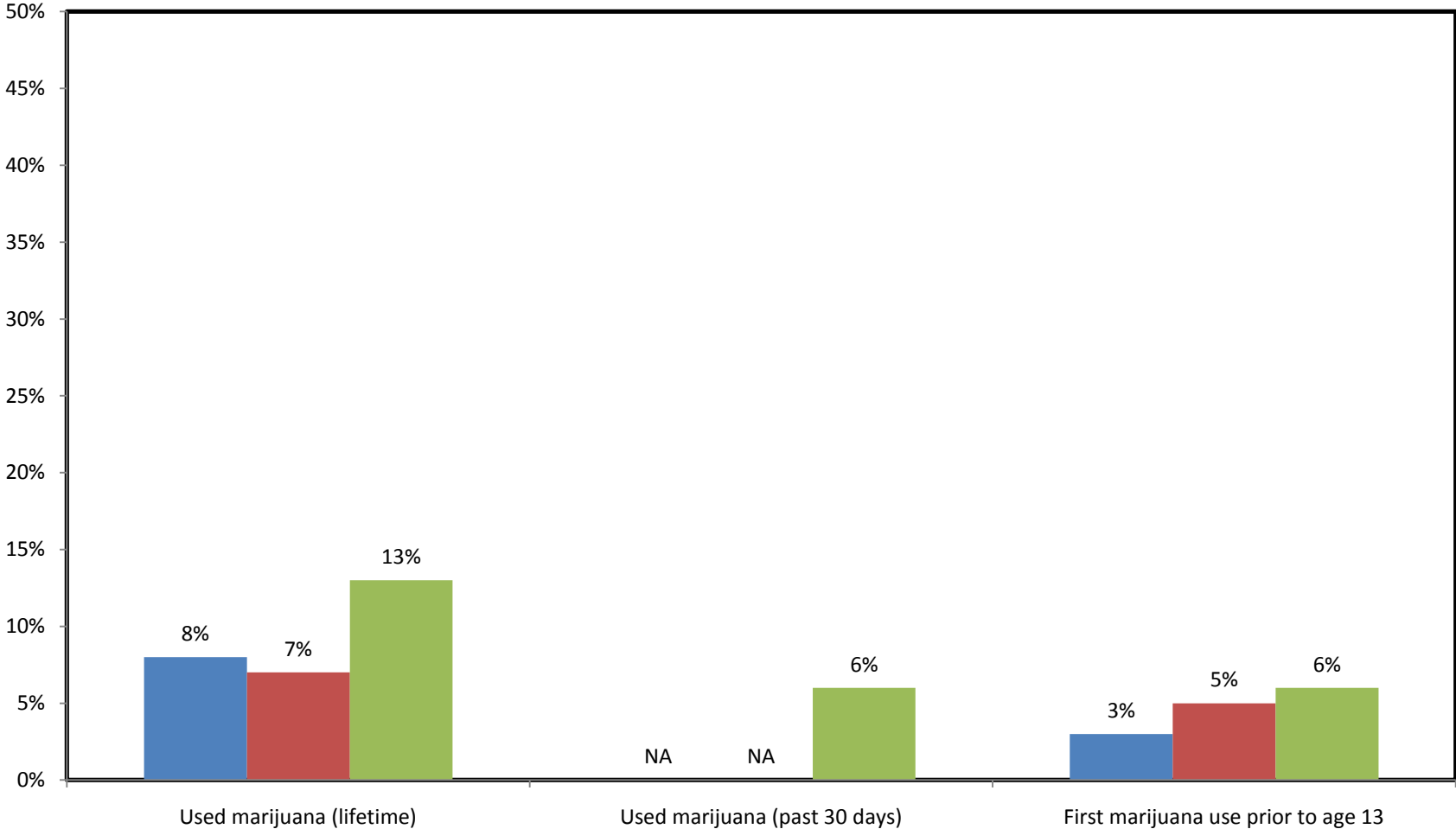
Alcohol Use By Grade, 2010

■ 7th Grade ■ 8th Grade



Marijuana Use By Year, 2006-2010

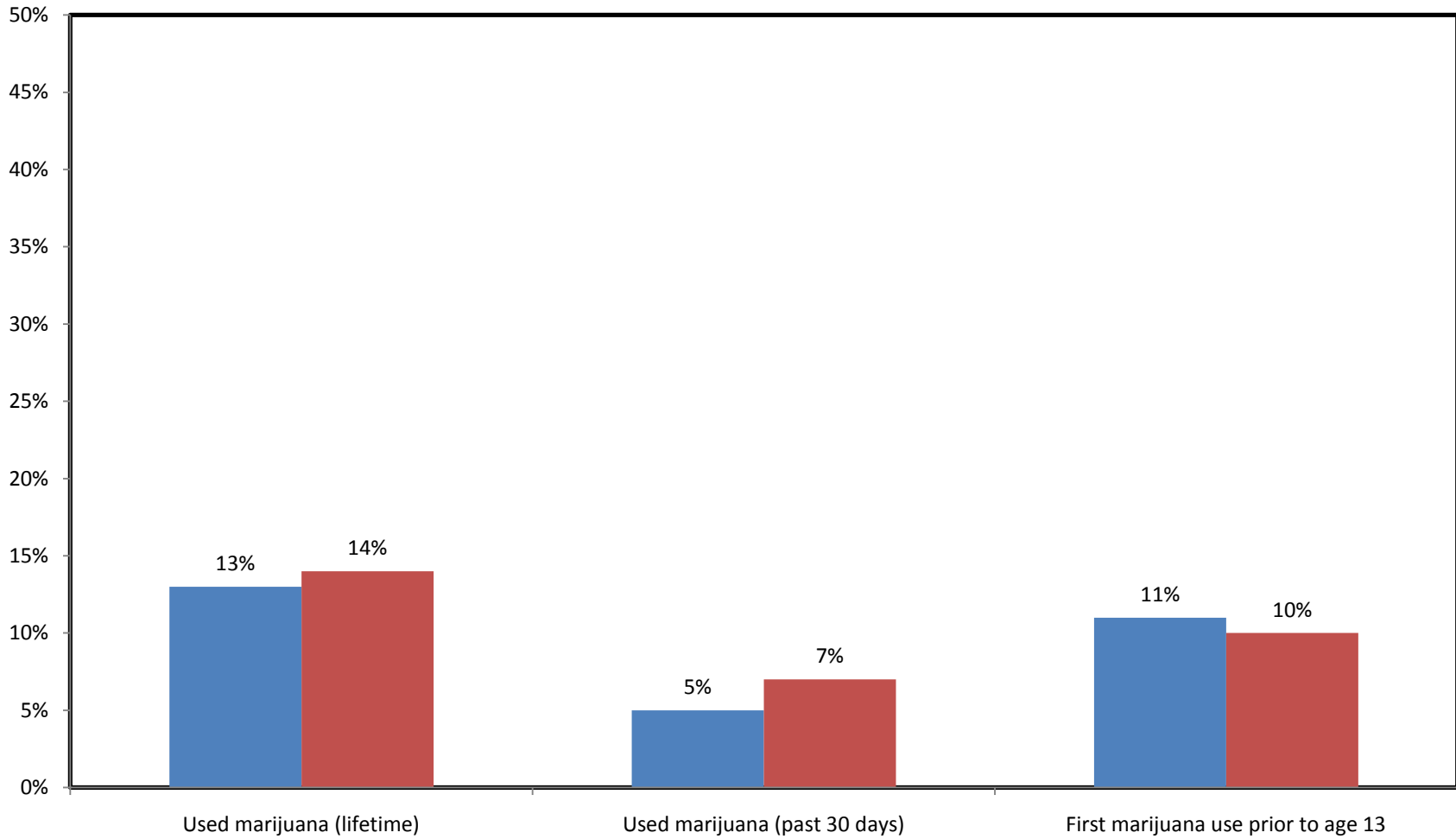
■ 2006 ■ 2008 ■ 2010



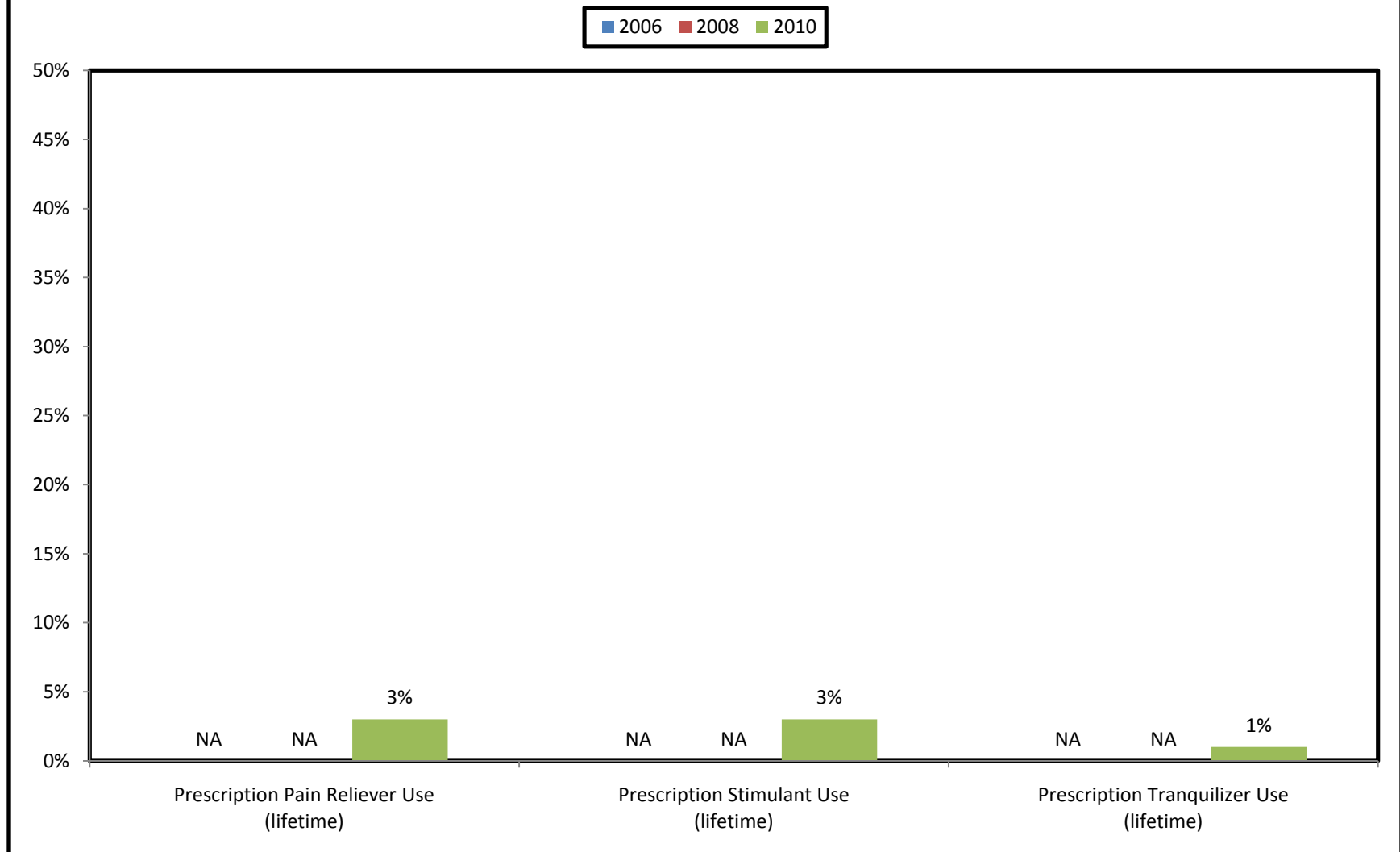
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Marijuana Use By Grade, 2010

■ 7th Grade ■ 8th Grade



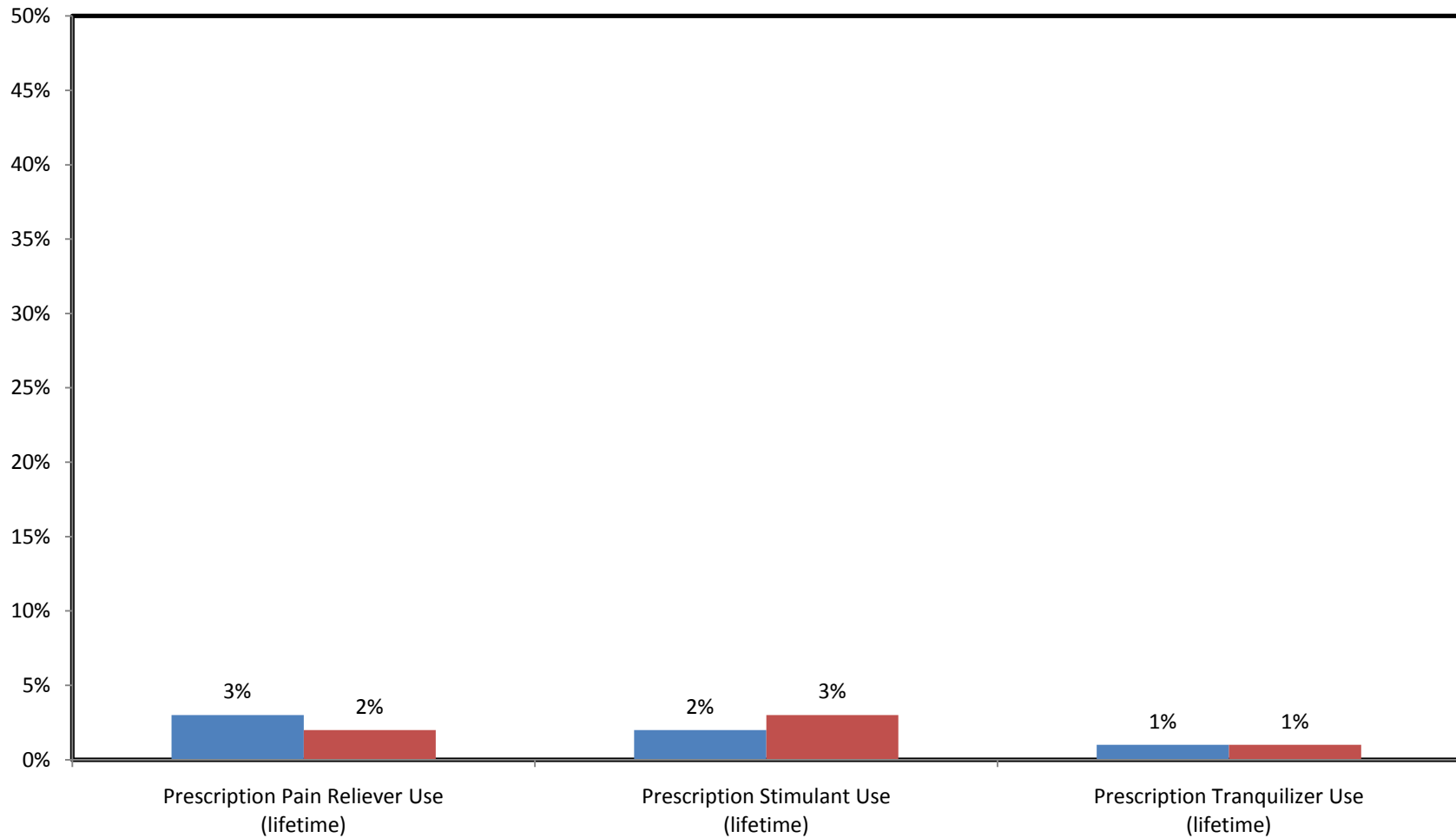
Prescription Drug Use (Type) By Year, 2006-2010



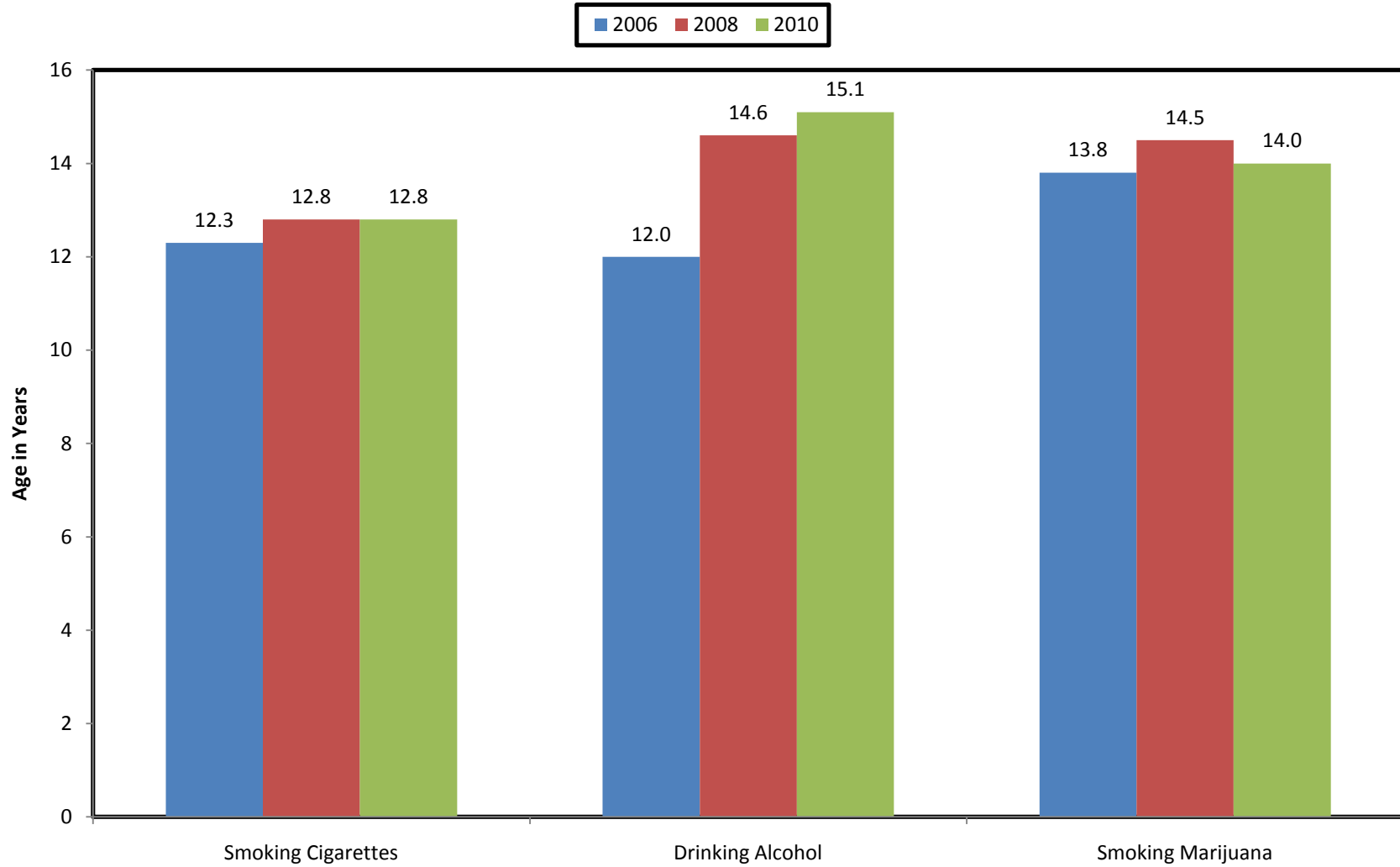
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Prescription Drug Use (Type) By Grade, 2010

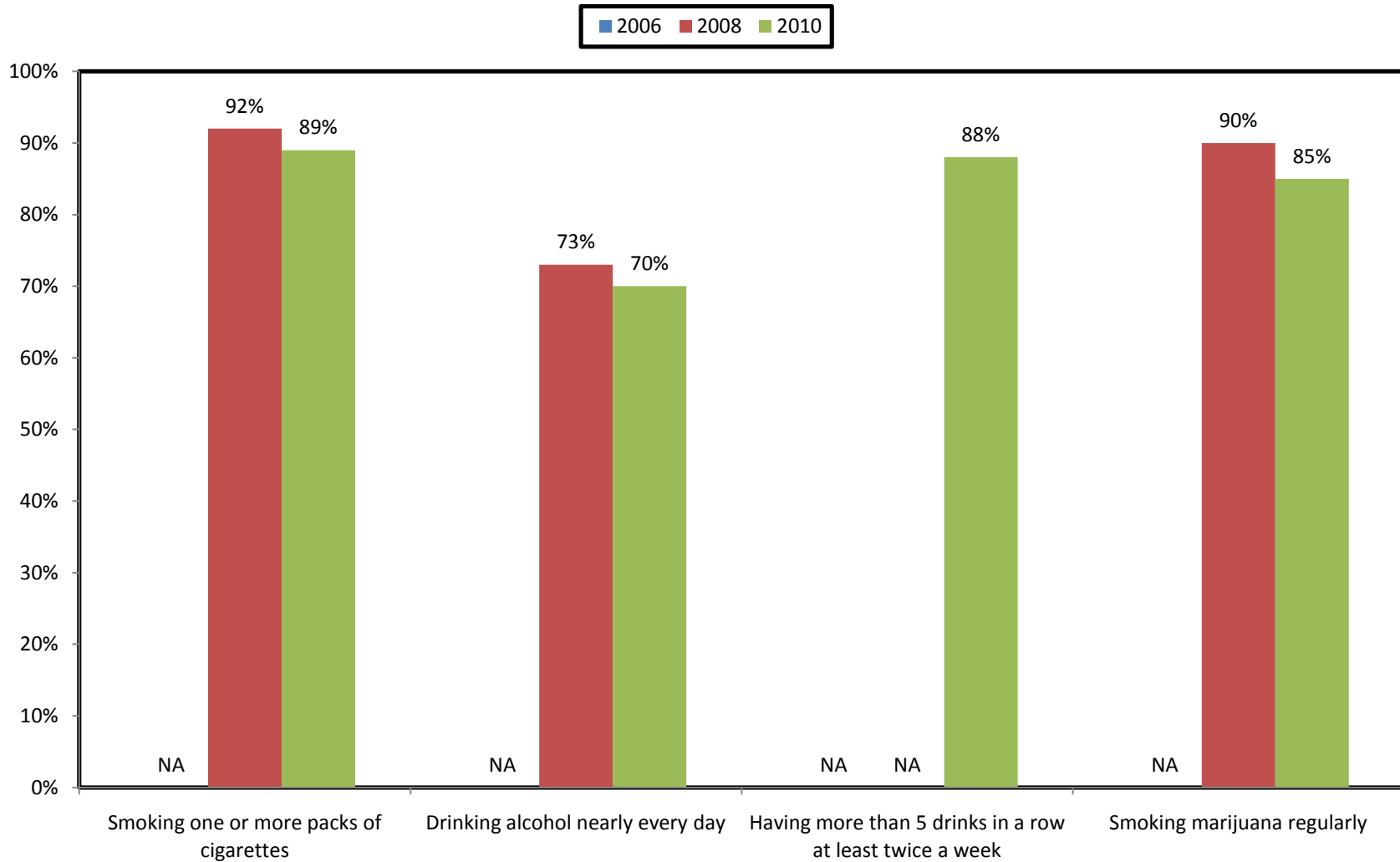
■ 7th Grade ■ 8th Grade



Average Age of Onset By Year, 2006-2010

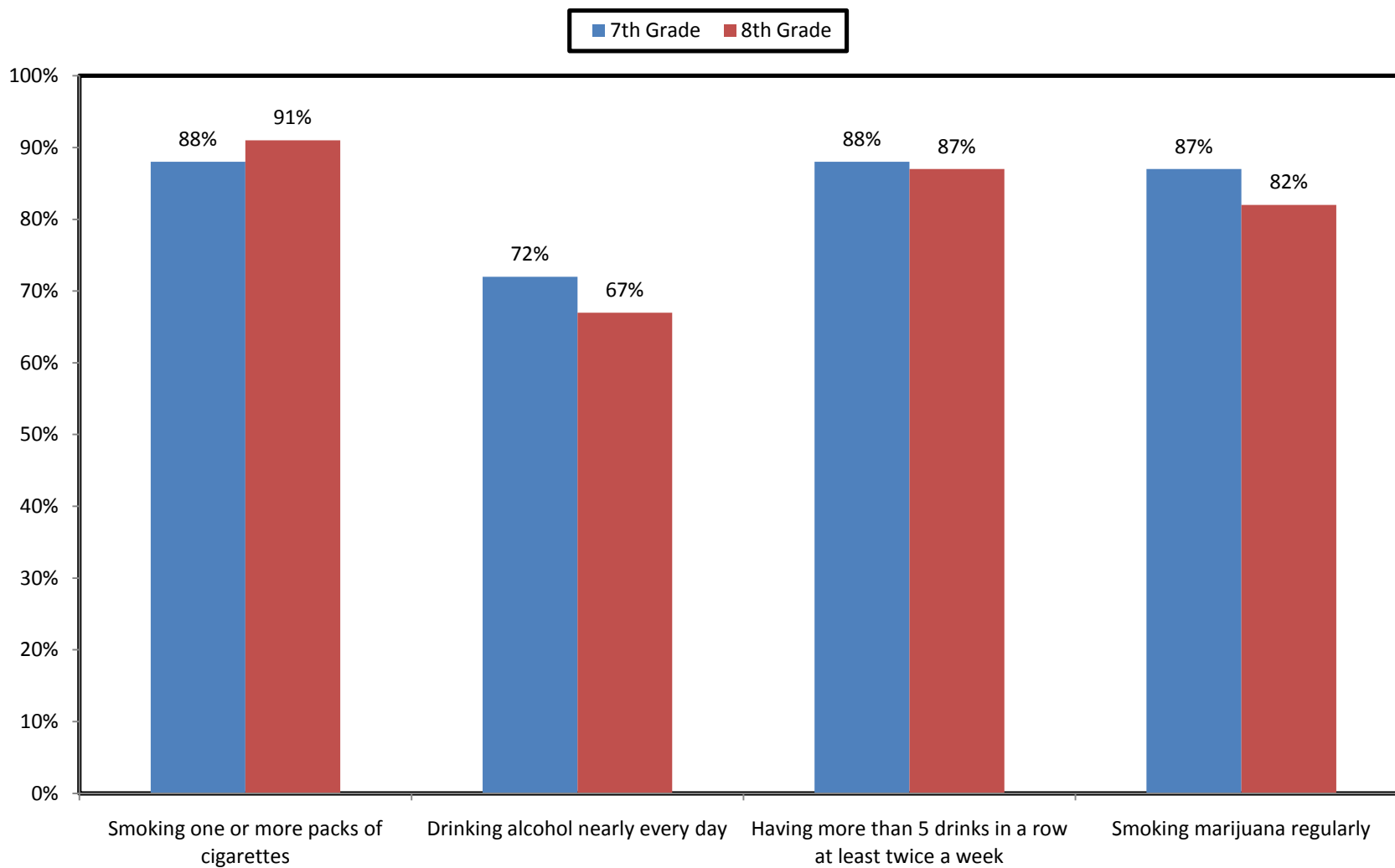


Perception of Moderate or Great Risk of Harm By Year 2006-2010

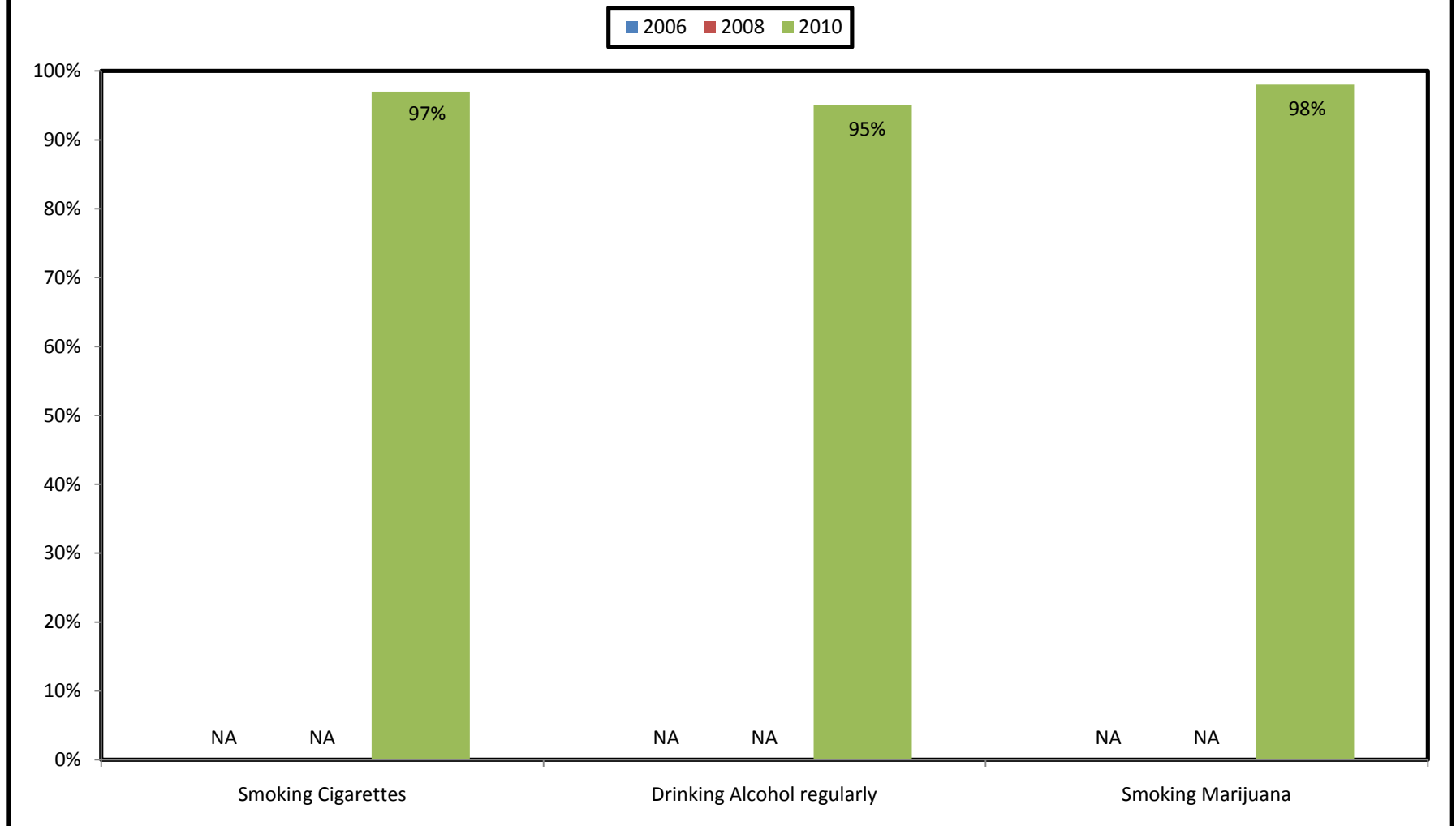


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Perception of Moderate or Great Risk of Harm By Grade, 2010



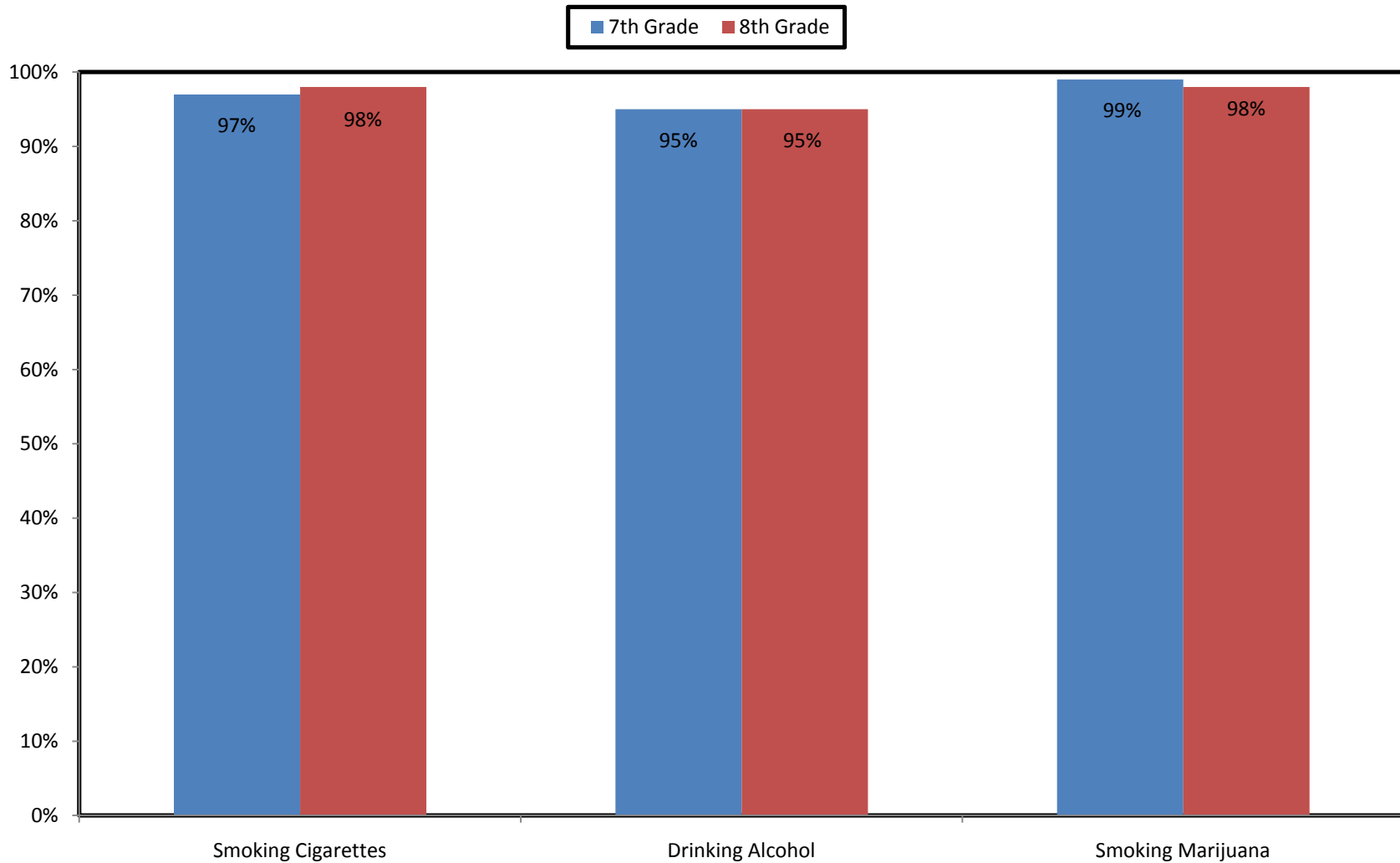
Perception of Parental Disapproval By Year, 2006-2010



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

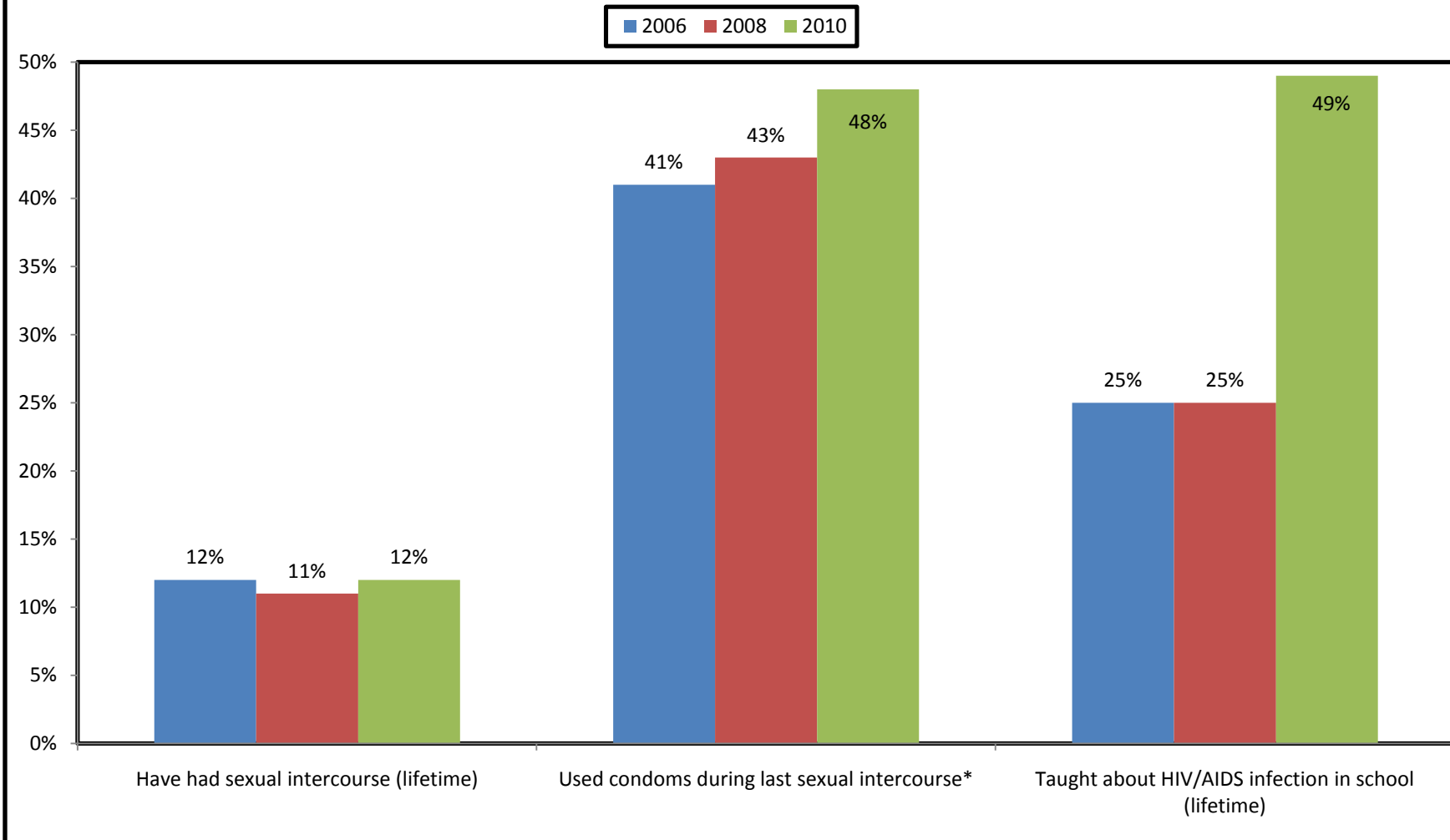
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Perception of Parental Disapproval By Grade, 2010



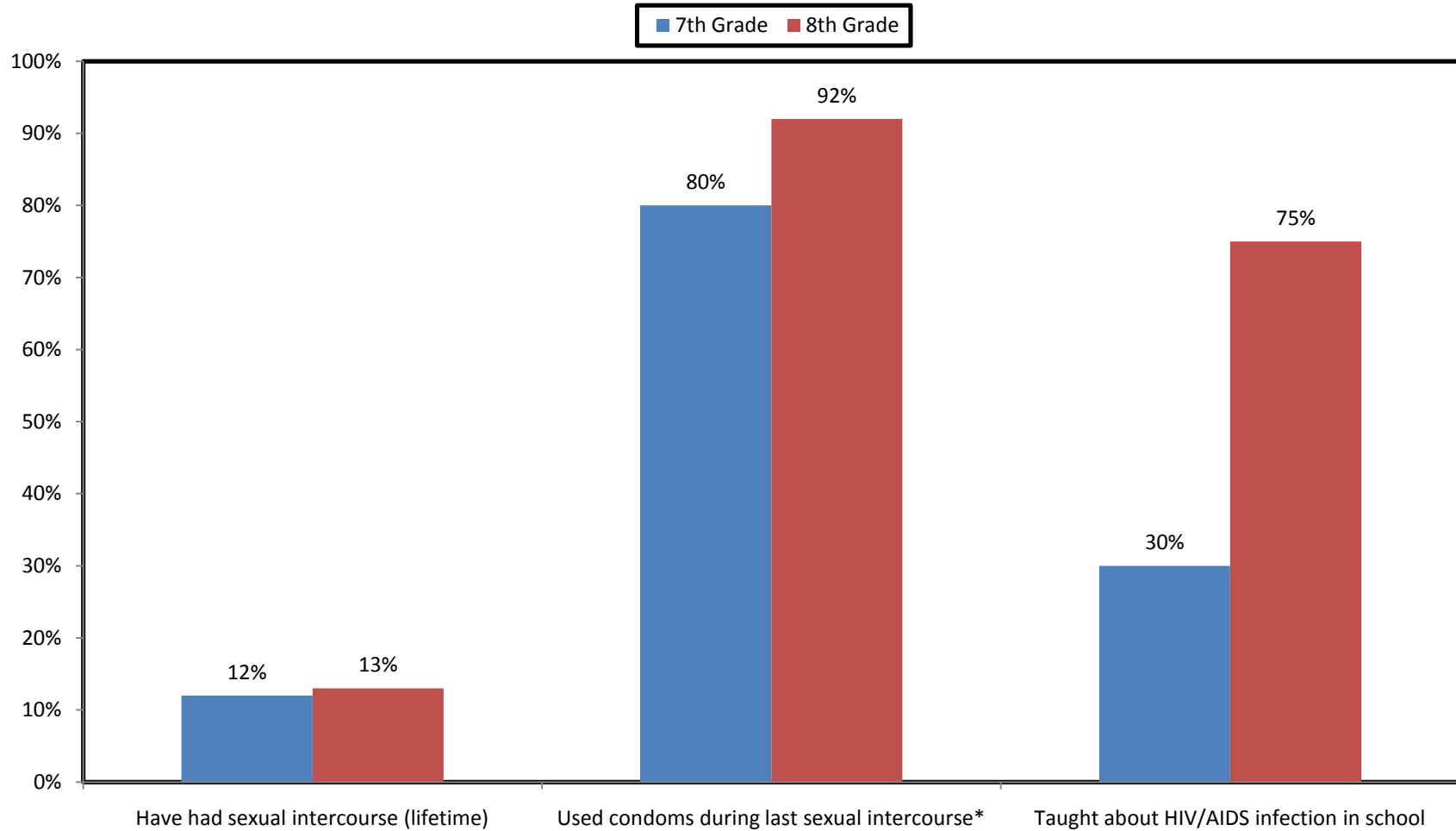
*Percent is based on responses indicating parental disapproval wrong/ very wrong.

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



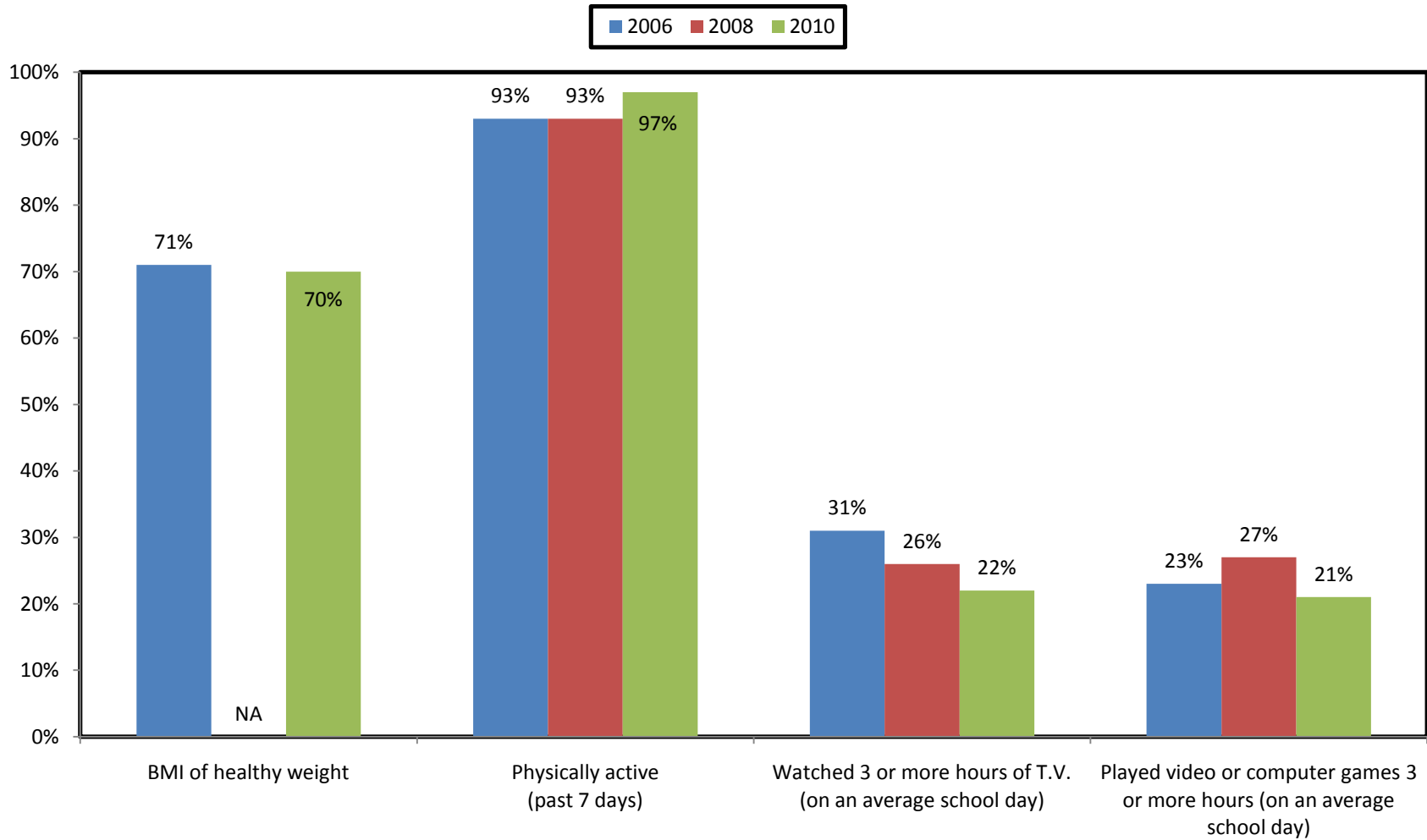
*Of those who have had sexual intercourse.

Sexual Behaviors, Pregnancy and HIV/AIDS Prevention By Grade, 2010



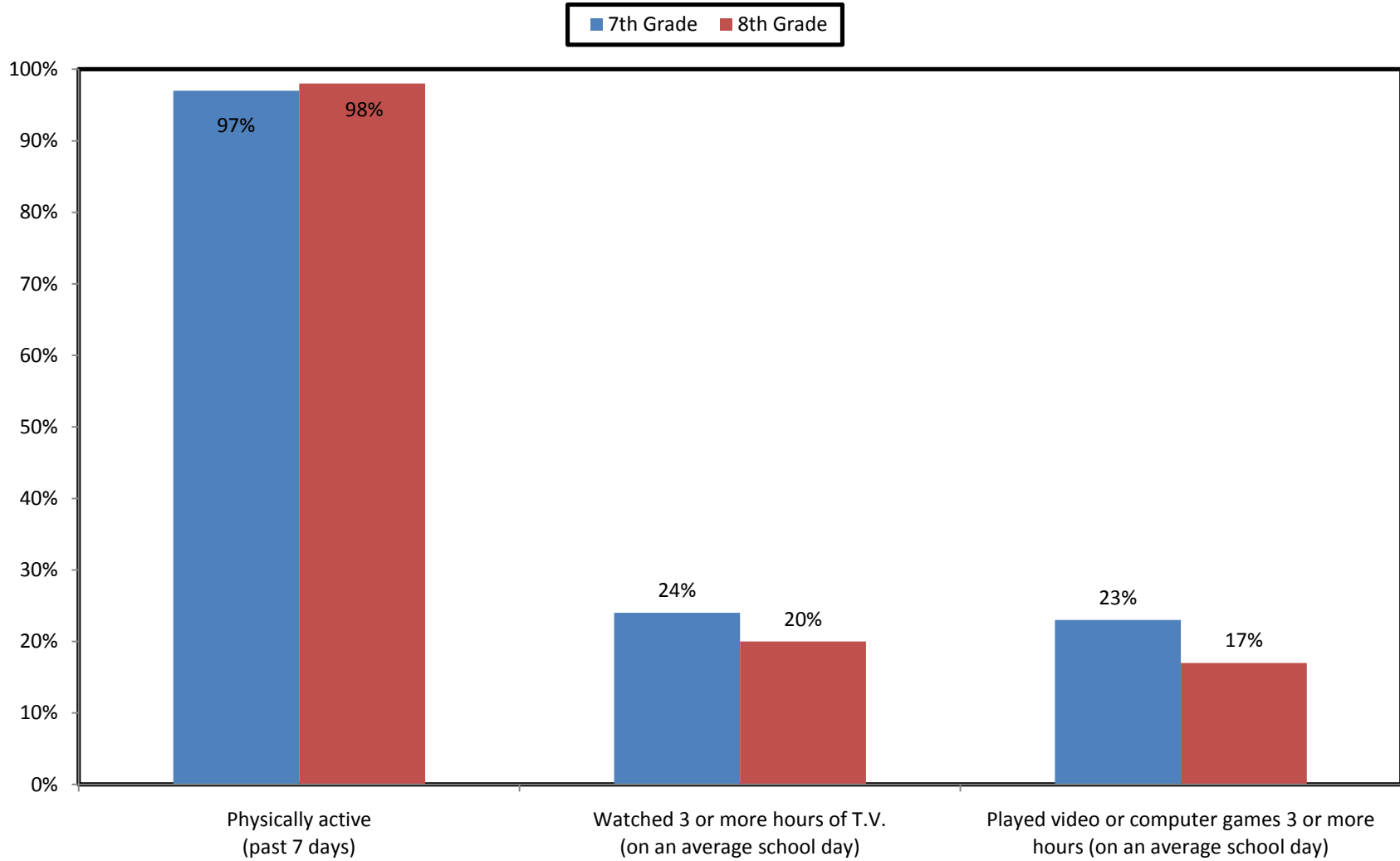
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Body Image, Physical Activity, and Screen Time By Year, 2006-2010



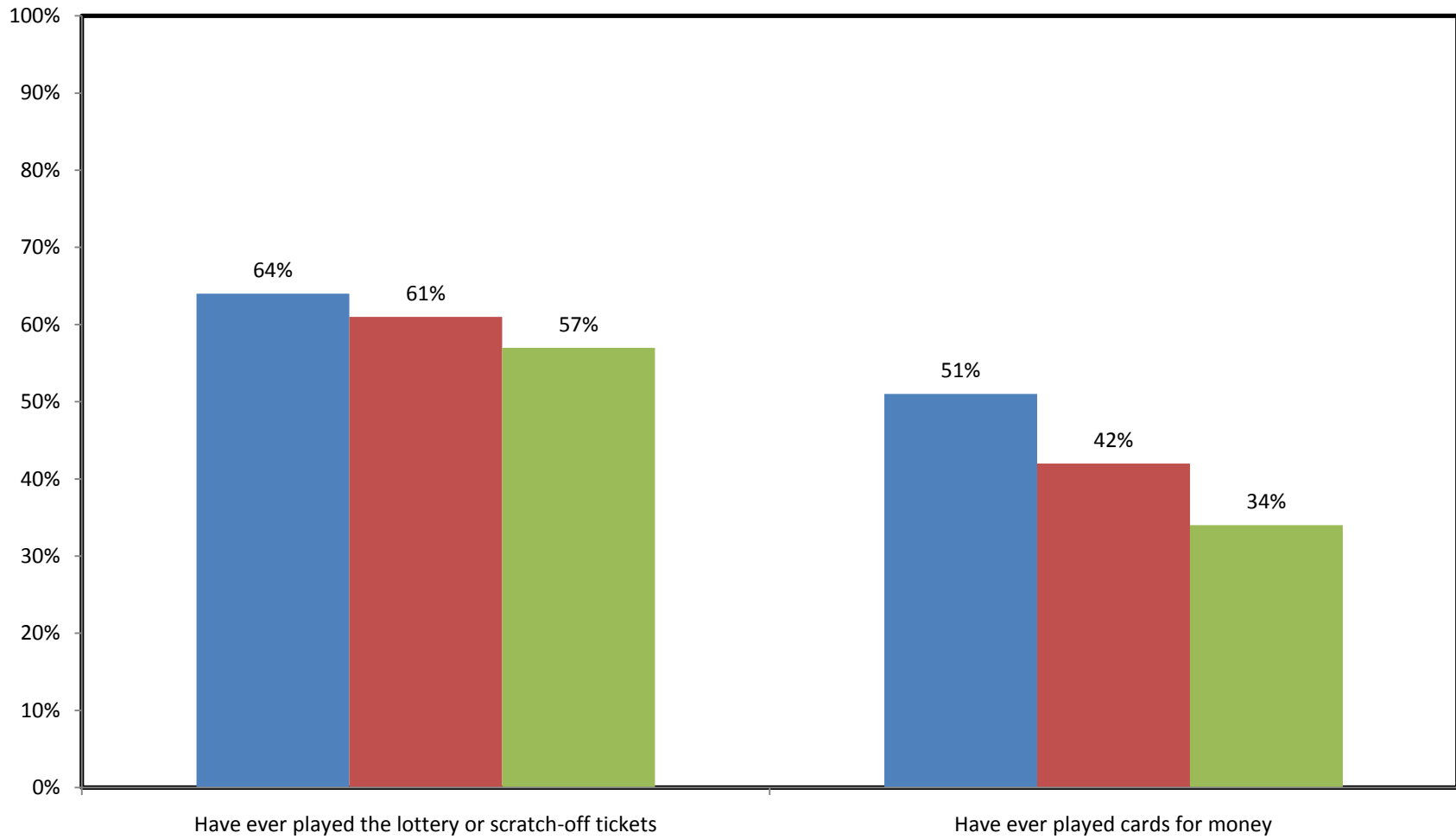
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Body Image, Physical Activity, and Screen Time By Grade, 2010



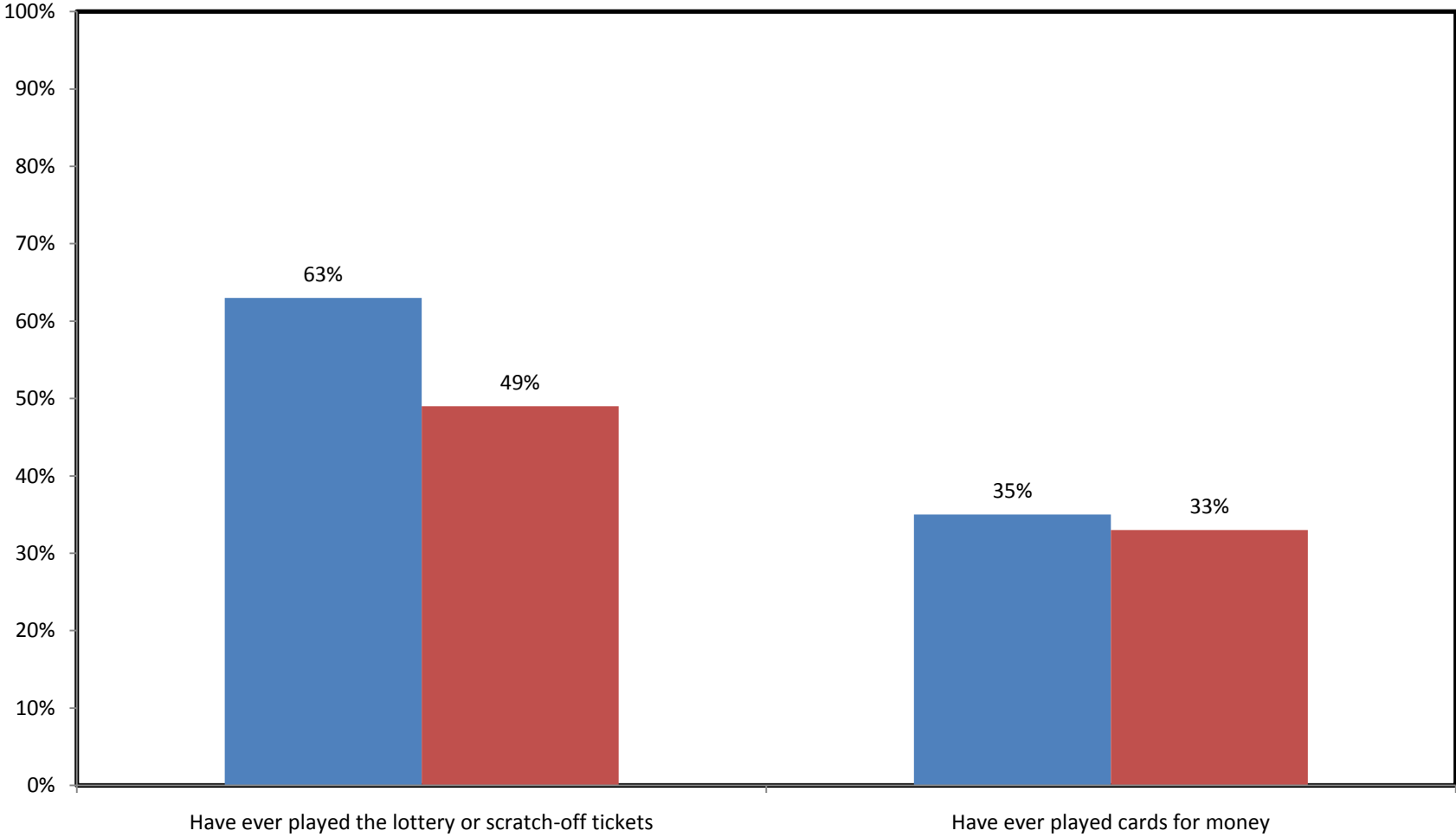
Gambling By Year, 2006-2010

■ 2006 ■ 2008 ■ 2010



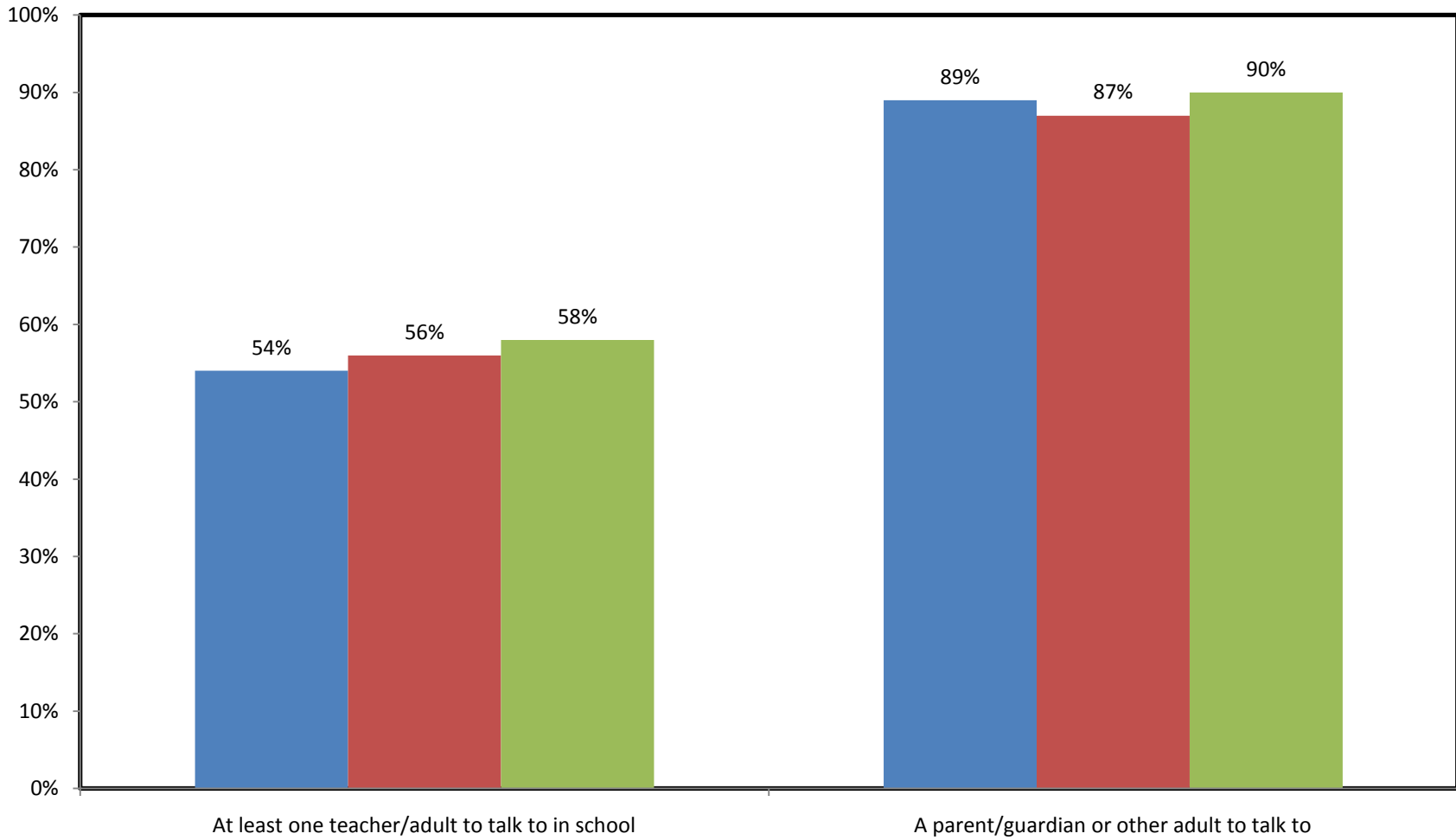
Gambling By Grade, 2010

7th Grade 8th Grade



Protective Factors By Year, 2006-2010

■ 2006 ■ 2008 ■ 2010



Protective Factors By Grade, 2010

