



The Legacy Center

for Community Success

Profiles of Student Life: Attitudes and Behaviors

Midland County Adolescent
Developmental Assets Study

2011

Midland County Developmental Assets Study—2011

- **Thank You** to the Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation for a generous grant that supported this study

Midland County Developmental Assets Study—2011

- Special Acknowledgment to
 - Academic and Career Education Academy
 - Bullock Creek Schools
 - Coleman Community Schools
 - Meridian Public Schools
 - Midland County Educational Service Agency
 - Midland Public Schools
 - Windover High School
- For implementing the survey

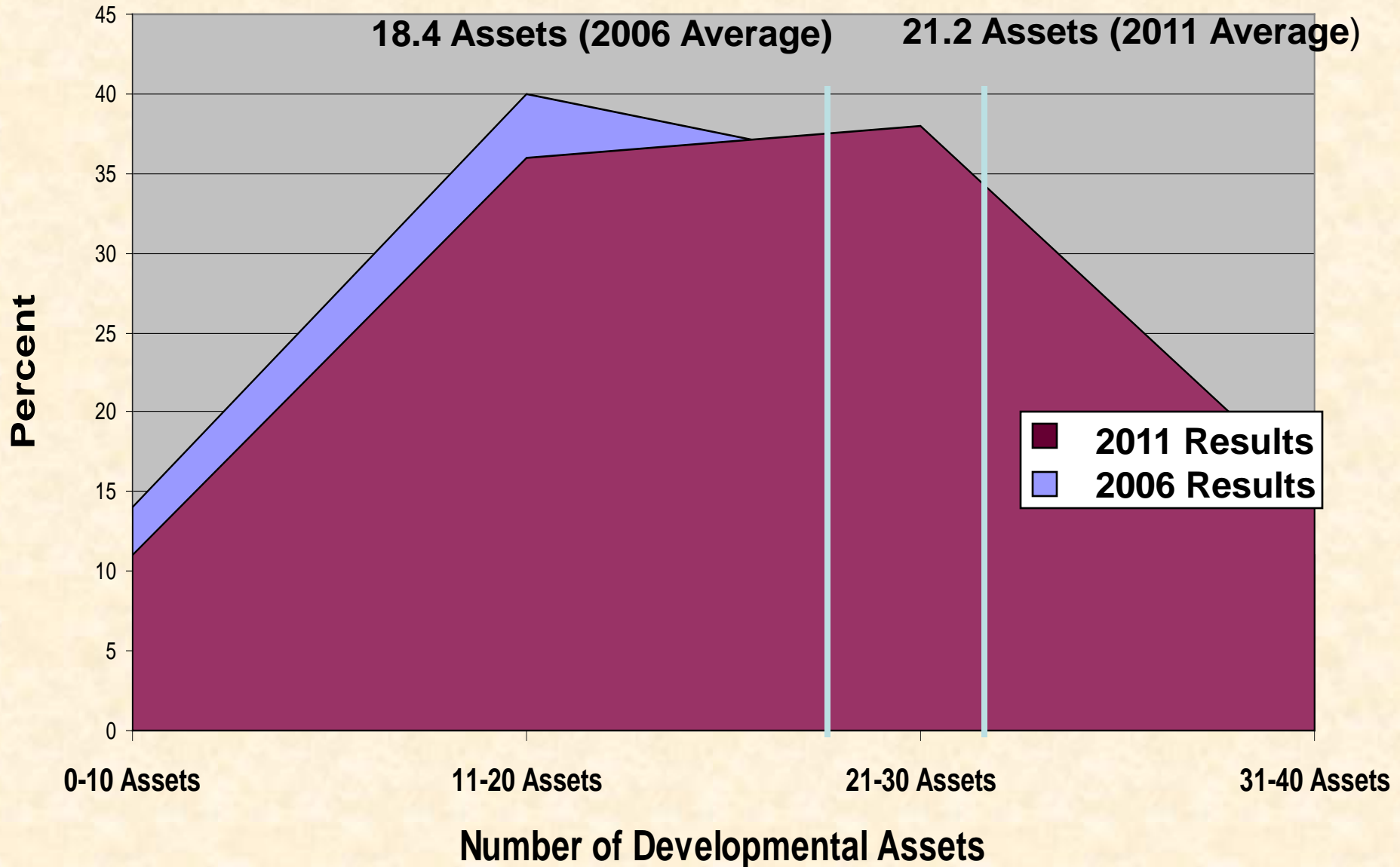
Midland County Developmental Assets Study—2011

Demographics

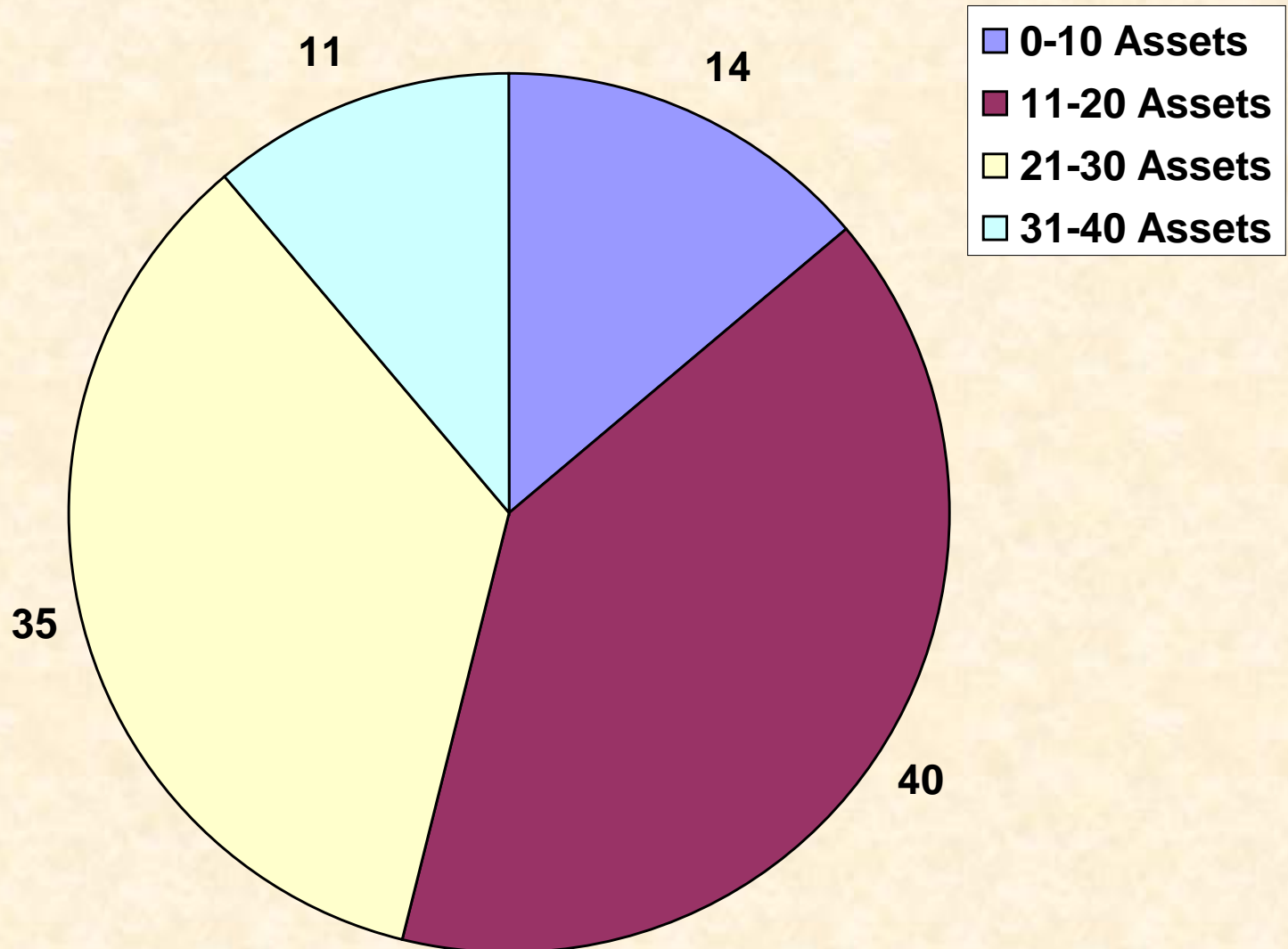
- Participants (Midland County Public School 6th-12th Graders)
 - 3,007 Girls
 - 3,028 Boys
- 6,035 Total (86% participation) [vs. ~81% in 2006]
 - 68 of 6,103 (1.1%) Surveys discarded for irregularities [vs. ~4% in 2006 and “3-7% nationally” per Search Institute]
- Estimated error < $\pm 1\%$



Comparative Distribution of Developmental Assets

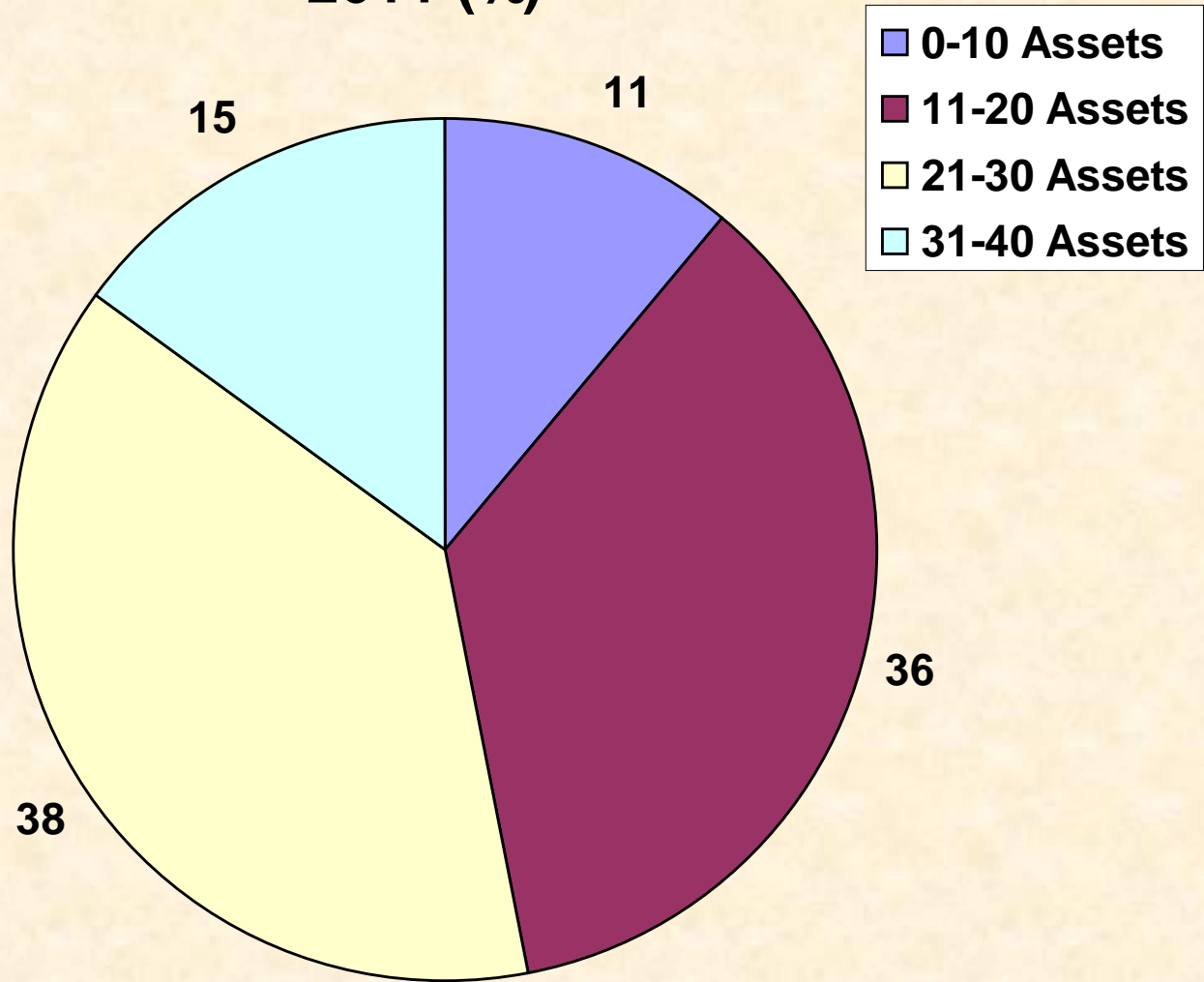


Distribution of Developmental Assets 2006 (%)



Average Number of Developmental Assets = 18.4



Distribution of Developmental Assets 2011 (%)

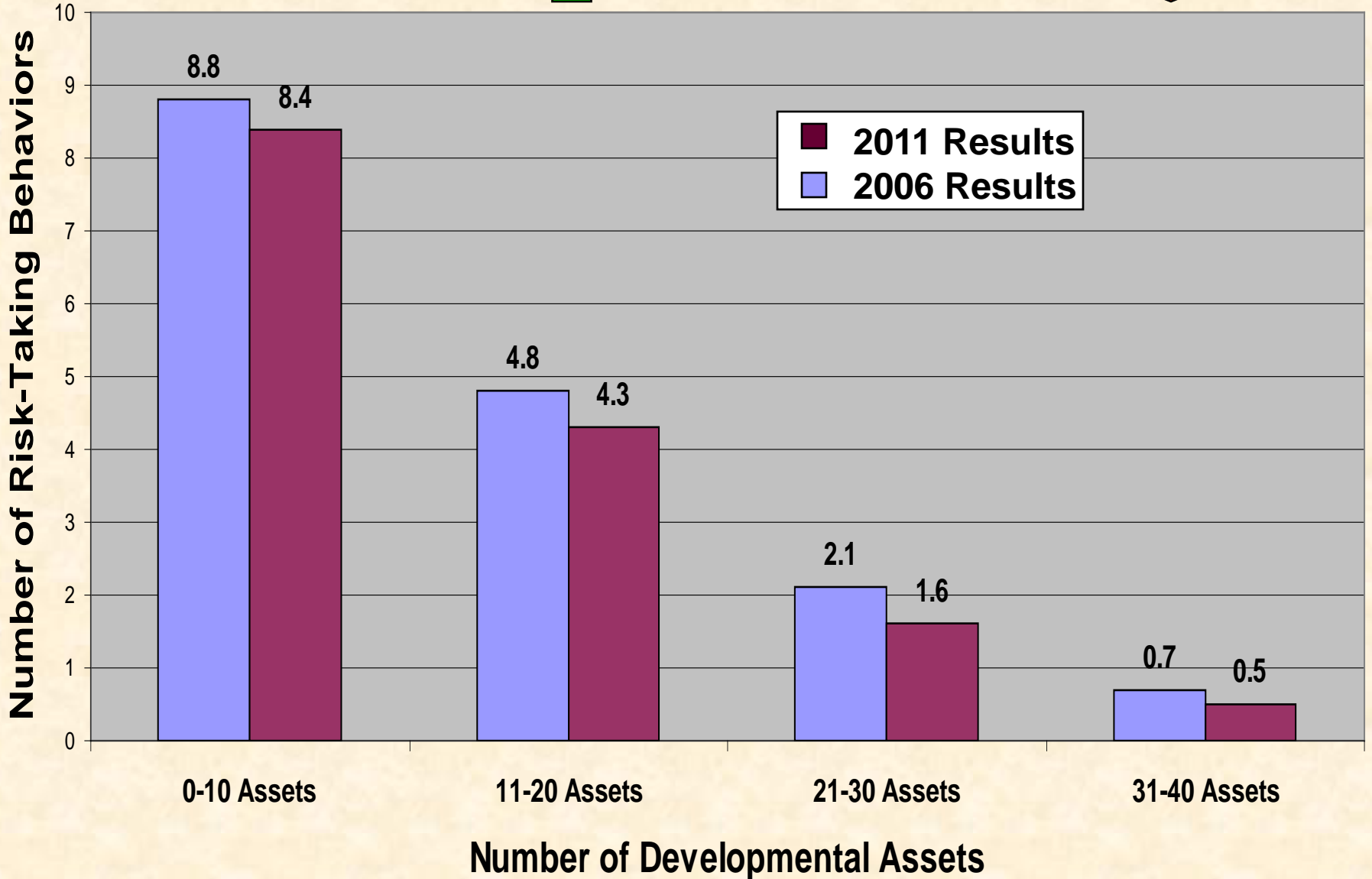


Average Number of Developmental Assets= 21.2



Risk-Taking Behaviors Versus Assets

More Developmental Assets  Results in Fewer Risk-Taking  Behaviors



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Conclusions

- Significant improvement overall in Developmental Assets compared to 2006 (+15% Average Increase)
 - 32 Increased
 - 2 Remained the same
 - 6 Decreased
- Significant reduction overall in Risk-Taking Behaviors
 - Developmental Asset-building programs appear to be gaining traction
 - Developmental Assets “immunizing” youth against Risk-Taking Behaviors
- Significant improvement in Key Developmental Assets
 - Positive Peers [71 → 76%]
 - Resistance [46 → 51%]
 - Restraint [52 → 56%]
 - Adult Role Models [31 → 33%]

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Conclusions

- Significant improvement in School- and Family-Related Developmental Assets

School-Related

- Caring School Climate [36→38%]
- School Boundaries [52→56%]
- Bonding to School [65→70%]
- Homework [51→54%]

Family-Related

- Parent Involvement in Schools [33→36%]
- Family Boundaries [49→50%]
- Time at Home [61→63%]
- Family Support [69→71%]

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Conclusions

- Significant reduction in Substance Abusive Risk-Taking Behaviors

Alcohol

- Drunk in past 2 weeks [16→11%]
- Used in past 30 days [26→18%]
- Drove after drinking [9→6%]
- Rode with drinking driver [31→26%]

Marijuana

- Used in past 12 months [18→16%]

Tobacco

- Smoked in past 30 days [13→10%]

Other Illicit Drugs (Cocaine, Heroin, Amphetamines, LSD and PCP)

- Used once in past 12 months [8→6%]



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Conclusions

- Significant reduction in Social Risk-Taking Behaviors
 - Hit someone [32→25%]
 - In group fight [18→13%]
 - In trouble with police [16→14%]
 - Vandalism [15→11%]
 - Shoplifted [17→12%]
 - Attempted Suicide [14→11%]
 - Depressed [15→14%]
 - Eating Disorders [14→12%]
 - Gambled [28→19%]
 - Truant [22→21%]
 - Threatened to harm others [27→23%]

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Concerns

- Increases/lack of improvement in several Risk-Taking Behaviors
 - Use of smokeless tobacco [7→8%]
 - Carrying weapon for protection [10→13%]
 - Frequent use of other illicit drugs [unchanged at 13%]
 - Sexual intercourse [unchanged at 21%]



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Concerns

- Reduction/no change in several Developmental Assets
 - Creative activities [22→19%]
 - Reading for pleasure [27→26%]
 - Caring neighborhoods [40→39%]
 - Religious activities [58→55%]
 - Cultural Competence [41→39%]
 - Safety [58→57%]
 - Youth programs [unchanged at 61%]
 - Equality/Social Justice [unchanged at 48%]
- Significant number of adolescents who don't have Developmental Assets, even in categories with high favorable responses [e.g., "Positive Peers = 76%, but that means 24% (~1,400 participants) don't have it]

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Recommendations

- Continue to emphasize implementation of the Youth Master Plan and the role of Developmental Assets in reducing Risk-Taking Behaviors
- Link study and results to Youth Master Plan “Dashboard”
- Continue to encourage community-wide evidence-based Developmental Asset-building programs and activities—Keep the Momentum going



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Recommendations

- Especially target strategies that continue to:
 - Increase participation in Creative Activities (Schools, Center for the Arts, Creative 360, Faith-based, Private Providers,...)
 - Promote reading for pleasure
 - Schools
 - Preschool Tool Totes
 - Library/school outreach programs
 - Encourage families to read
 - Continue to strengthen/improve availability of/access to organized youth activities
 - Community/family centers
 - Schools
 - Scouting, 4-H,...
 - Engage/encourage faith-based community in youth programs

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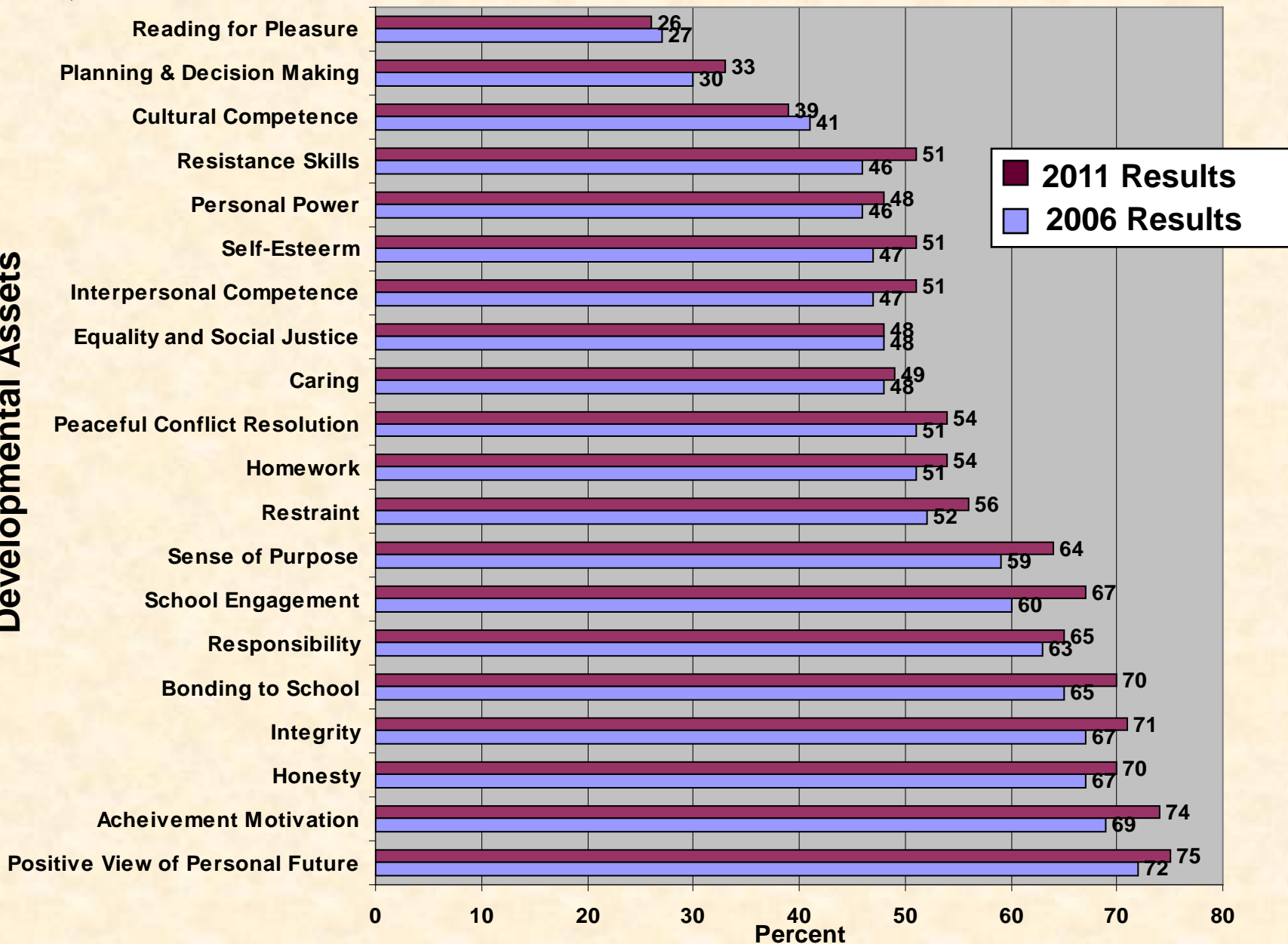
Recommendations

- Improve substance abuse prevention/treatment interventions, especially for illicit drugs
- Emphasize Developmental Assets and their role in promoting a community where youth and their families flourish and thrive
- Repeat study in 5 years to measure future progress



Internal Developmental Assets 2011 Vs. 2006

Developmental Assets





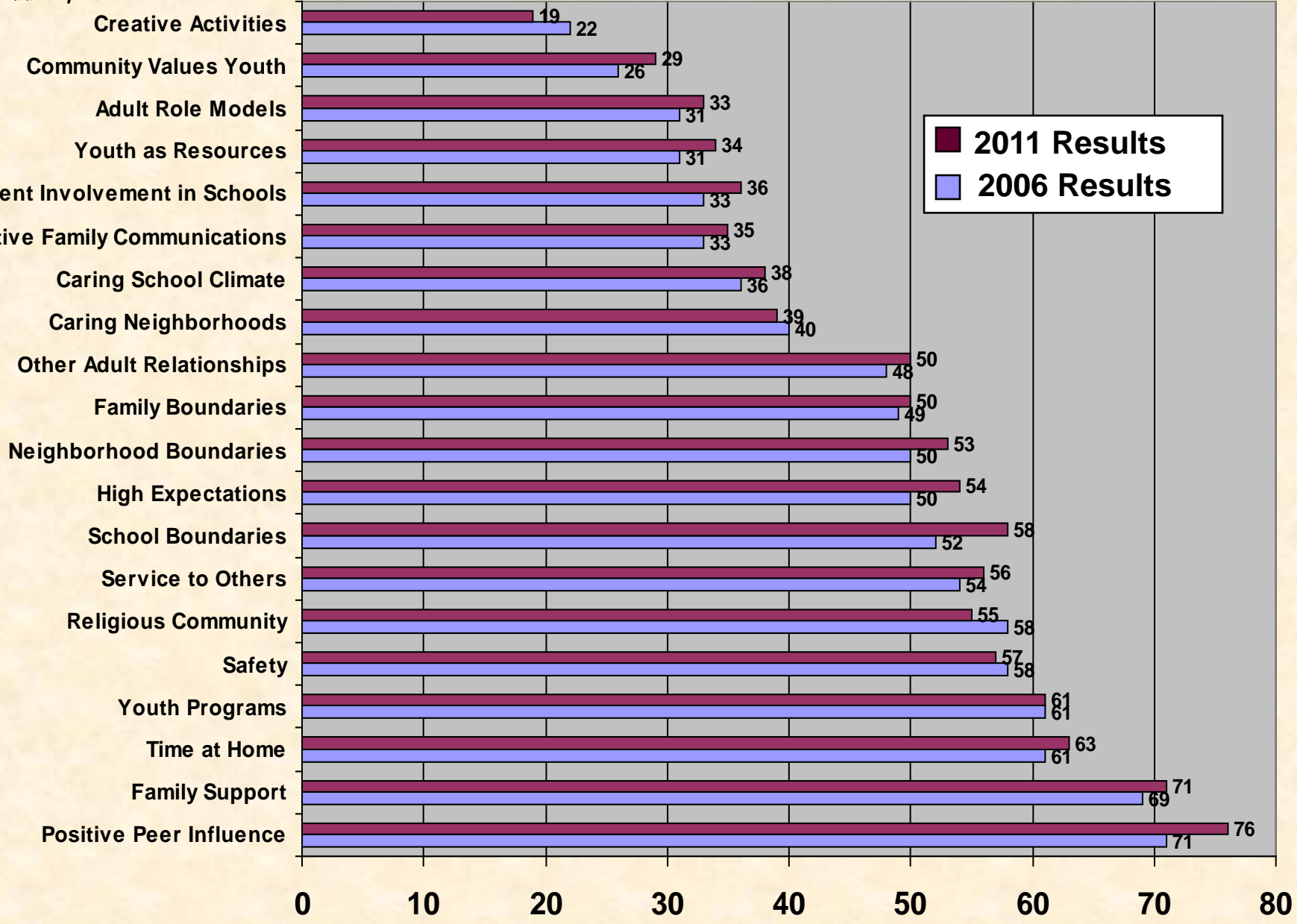
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External Developmental Assets 2011 Vs. 2006

Developmental Assets

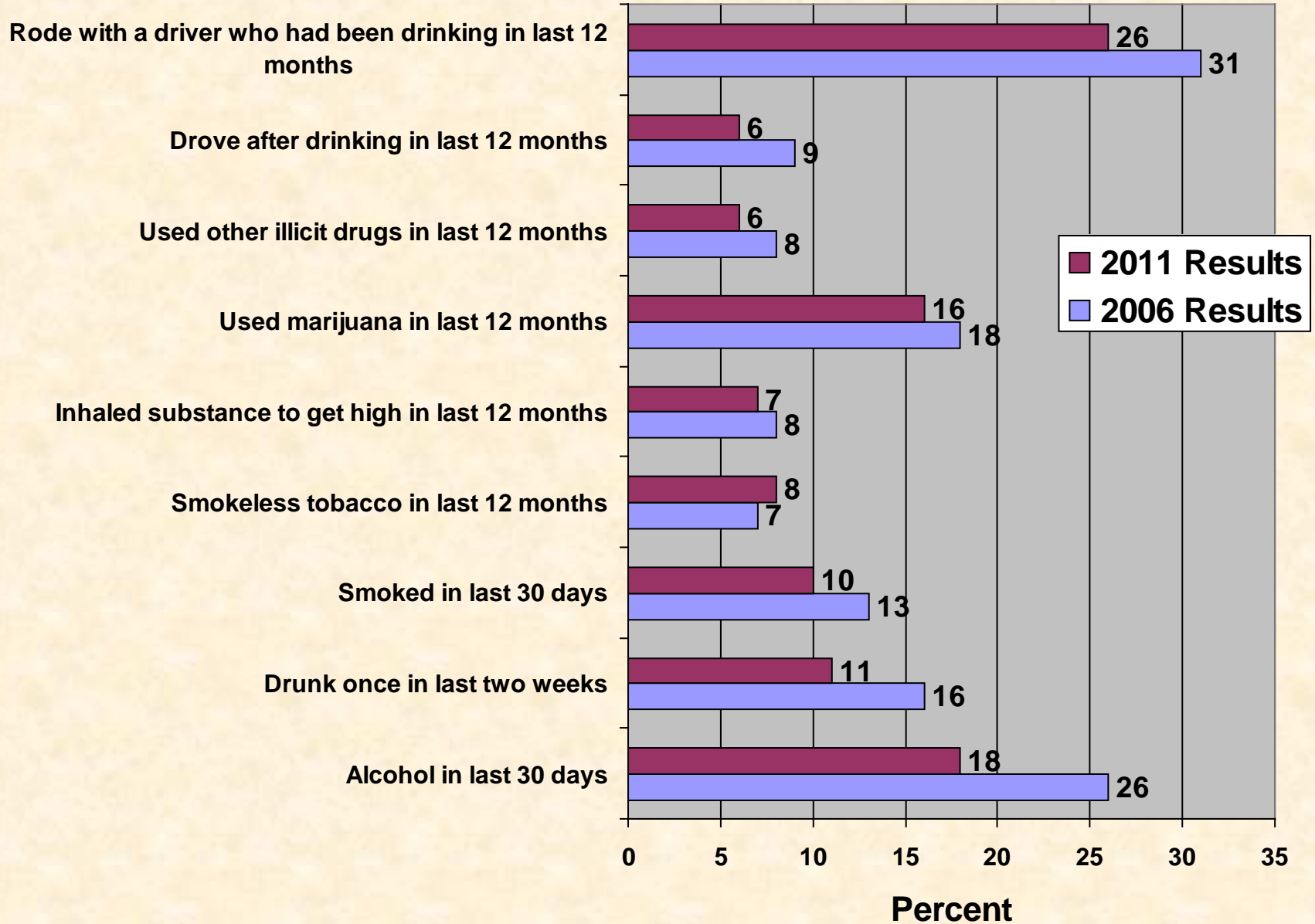
■ 2011 Results
■ 2006 Results





Substance Abusive Behaviors

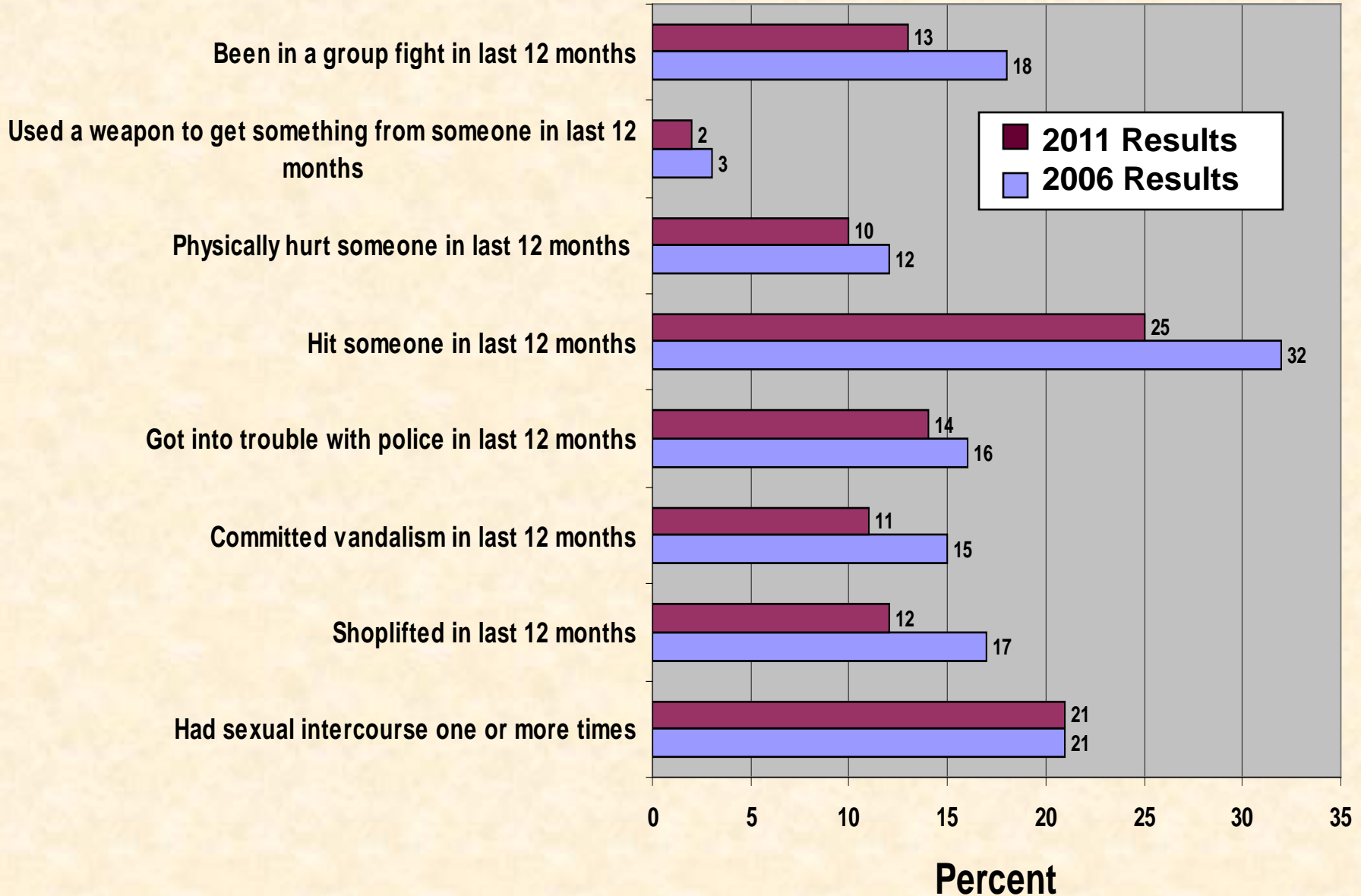
Risk-Taking Behavior





Social Behaviors

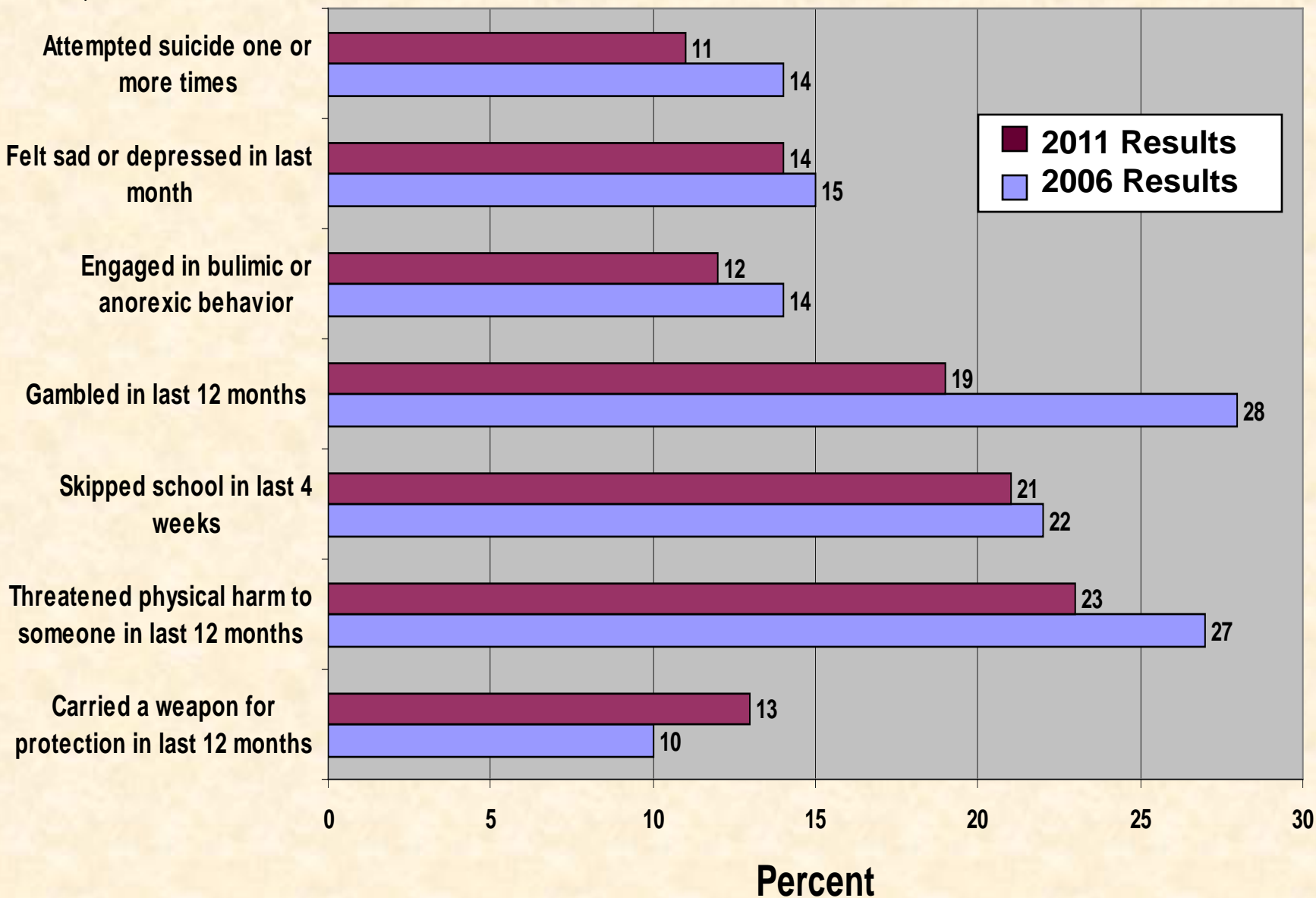
Risk-Taking Behaviors





Social Behaviors

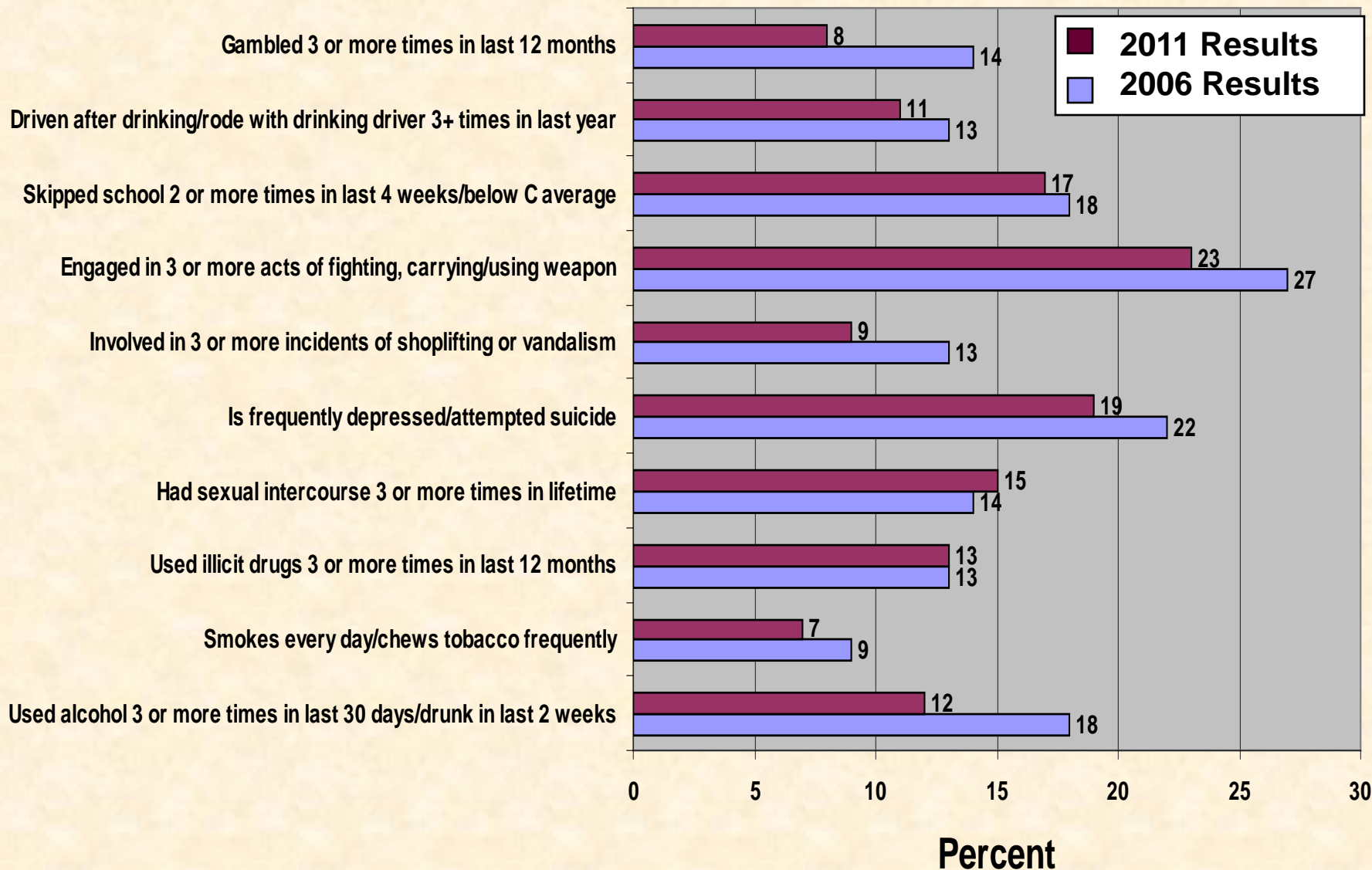
Risk-Taking Behaviors





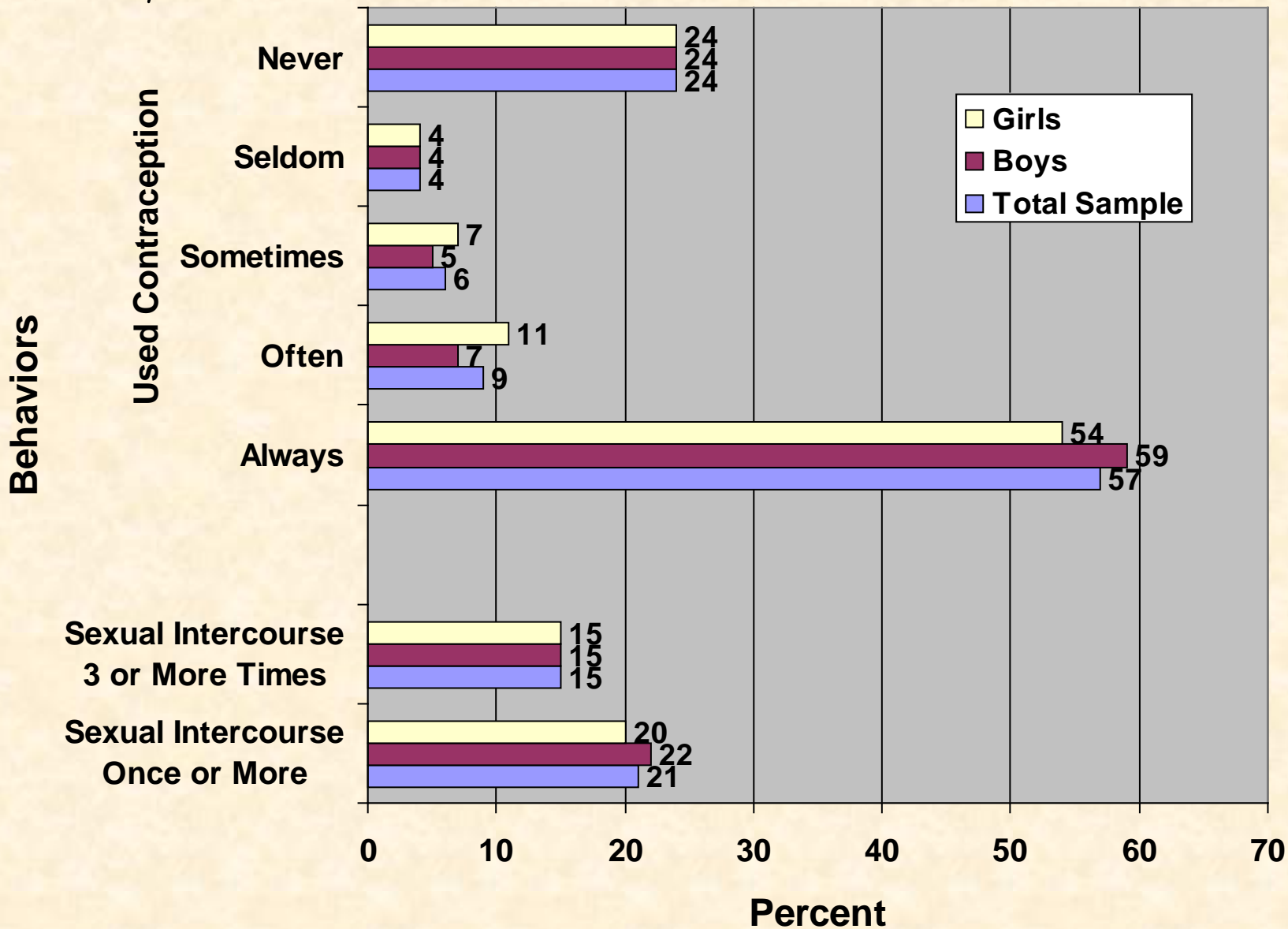
High Risk Social Behaviors

Risk-Taking Behaviors





Sexual Behaviors By Gender





Sexual Activity By Grade Level

