



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

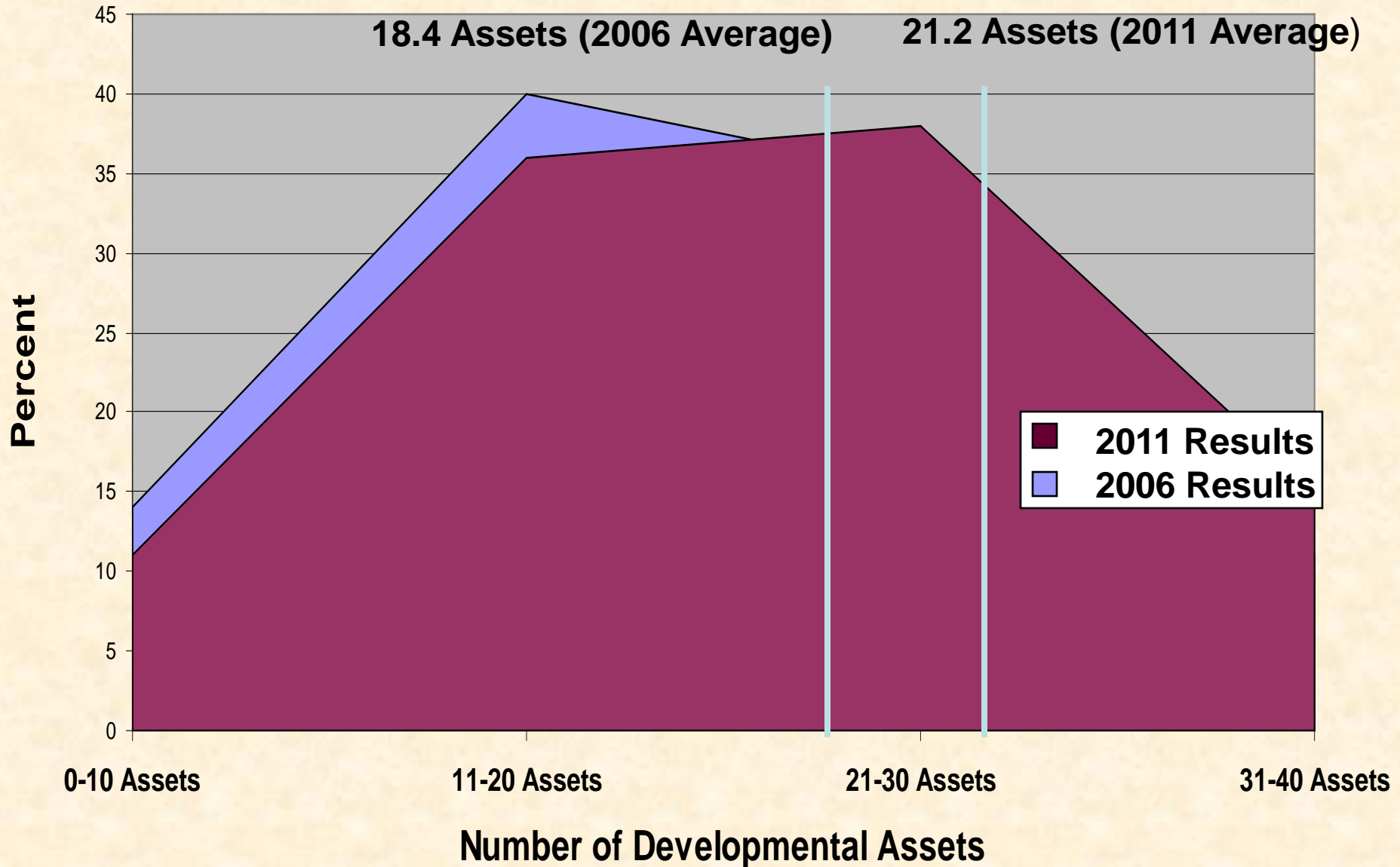
# Midland County Developmental Assets Study—2011

## Demographics

- Participants (Midland County Public School 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 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 <  $\pm 1\%$

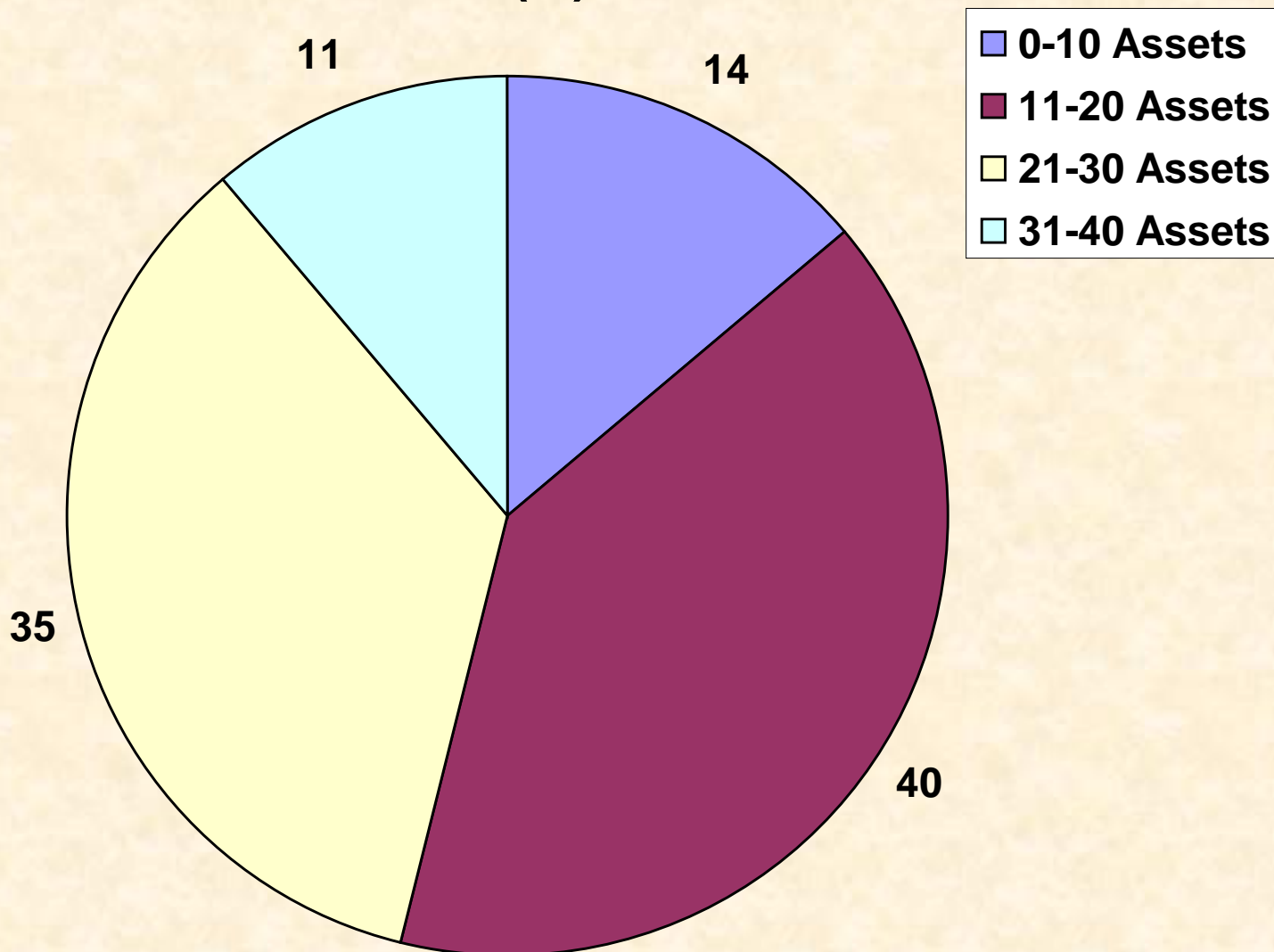


# Comparative Distribution of Developmental Assets



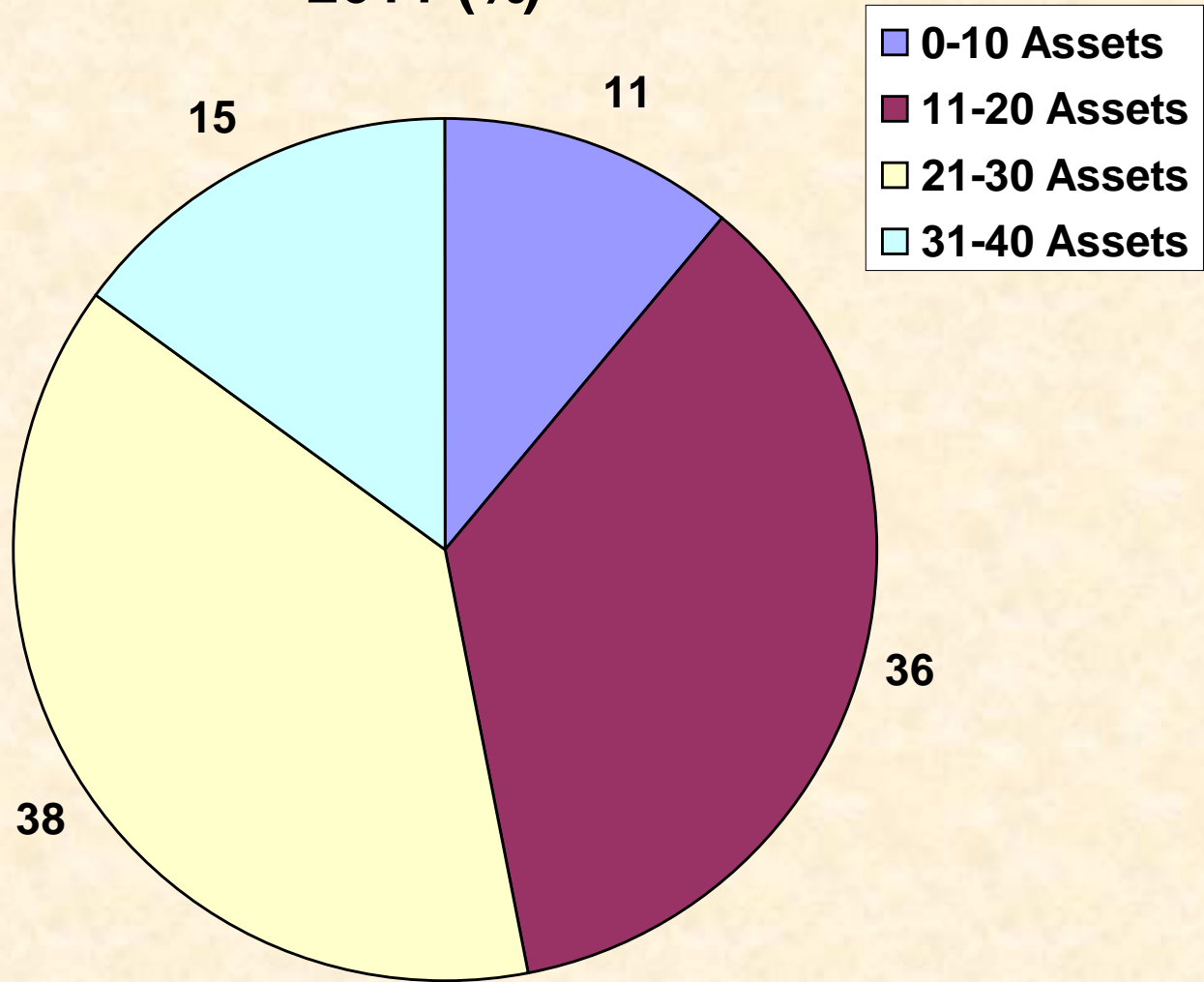


## Distribution of Developmental Assets 2006 (%)



**Average Number of Developmental Assets = 18.4**



# Distribution of Developmental Assets 2011 (%)

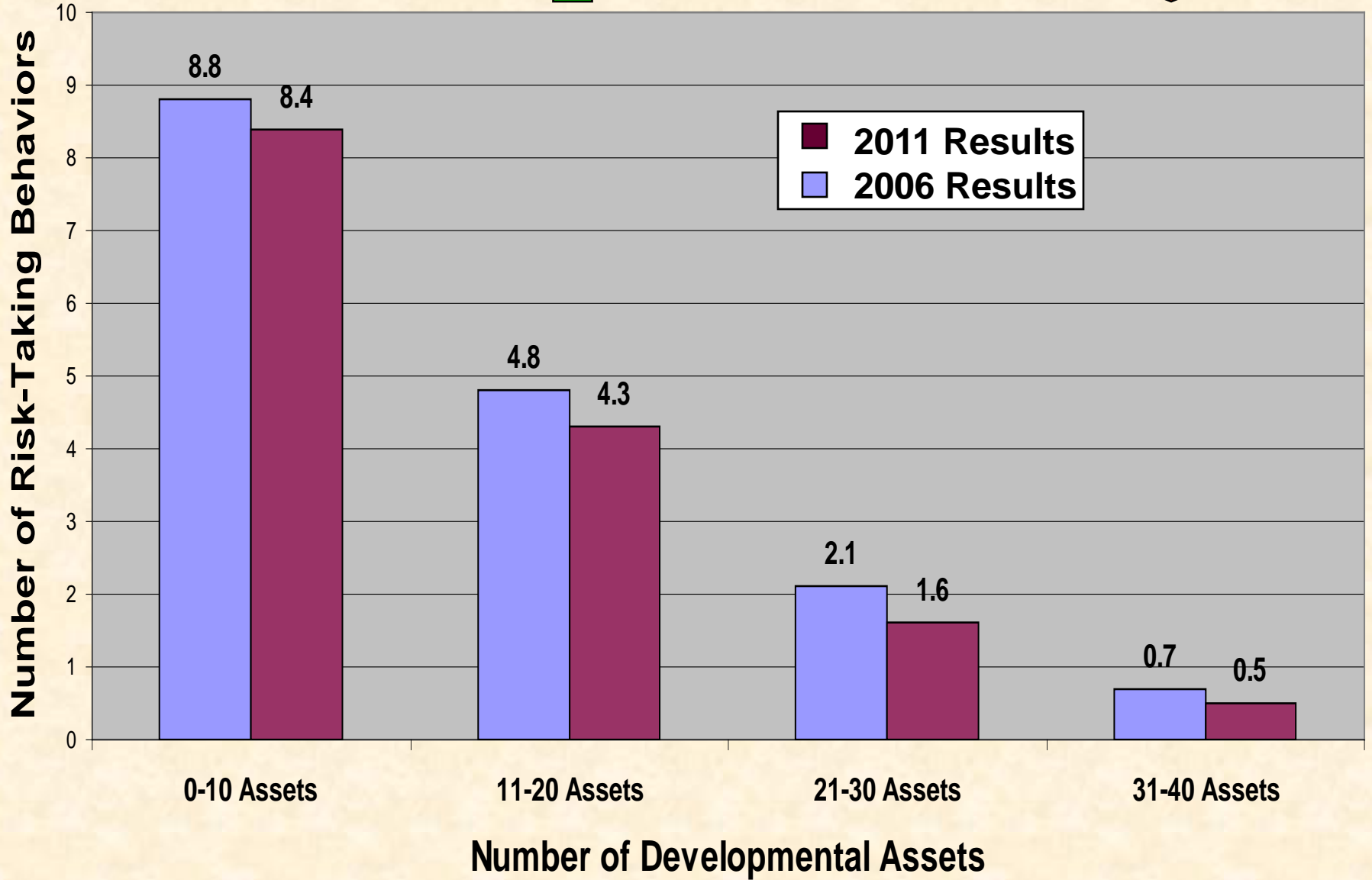


**Average Number of Developmental Assets= 21.2**



# Risk-Taking Behaviors Versus Assets

**More Developmental Assets**  **Results in Fewer Risk-Taking**  **Behaviors**



# Midland County Developmental Assets Study—2011

## 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%]

# Midland County Developmental Assets Study—2011

## 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%]

# Midland County Developmental Assets Study—2011

## 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%]



# Midland County Developmental Assets Study—2011

## 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%]

# Midland County Developmental Assets Study—2011

## 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%]



# Midland County Developmental Assets Study—2011

## 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]

# Midland County Developmental Assets Study—2011

## 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



# Midland County Developmental Assets Study—2011

## 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

# Midland County Developmental Assets Study—2011

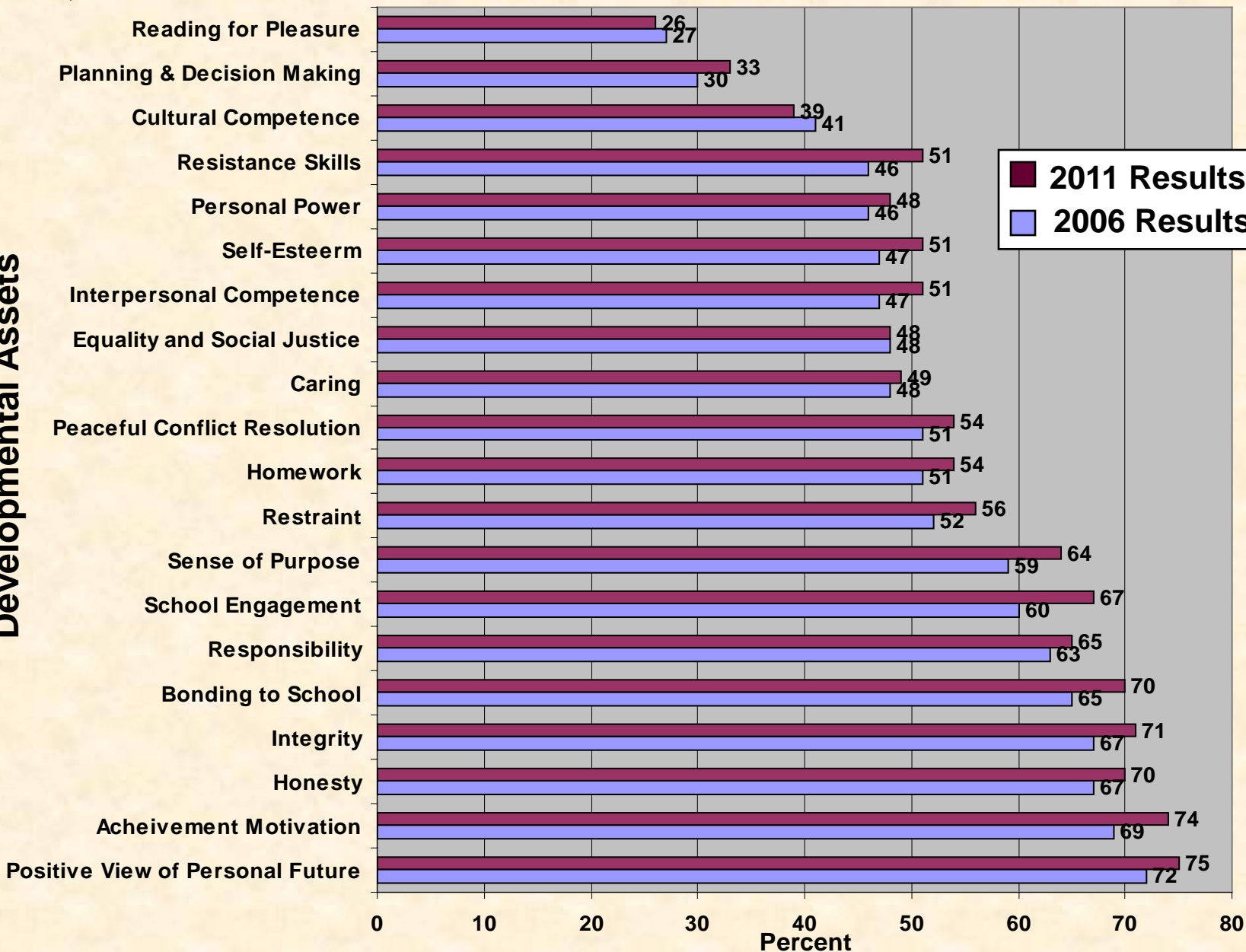
## Recommendations

- 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**



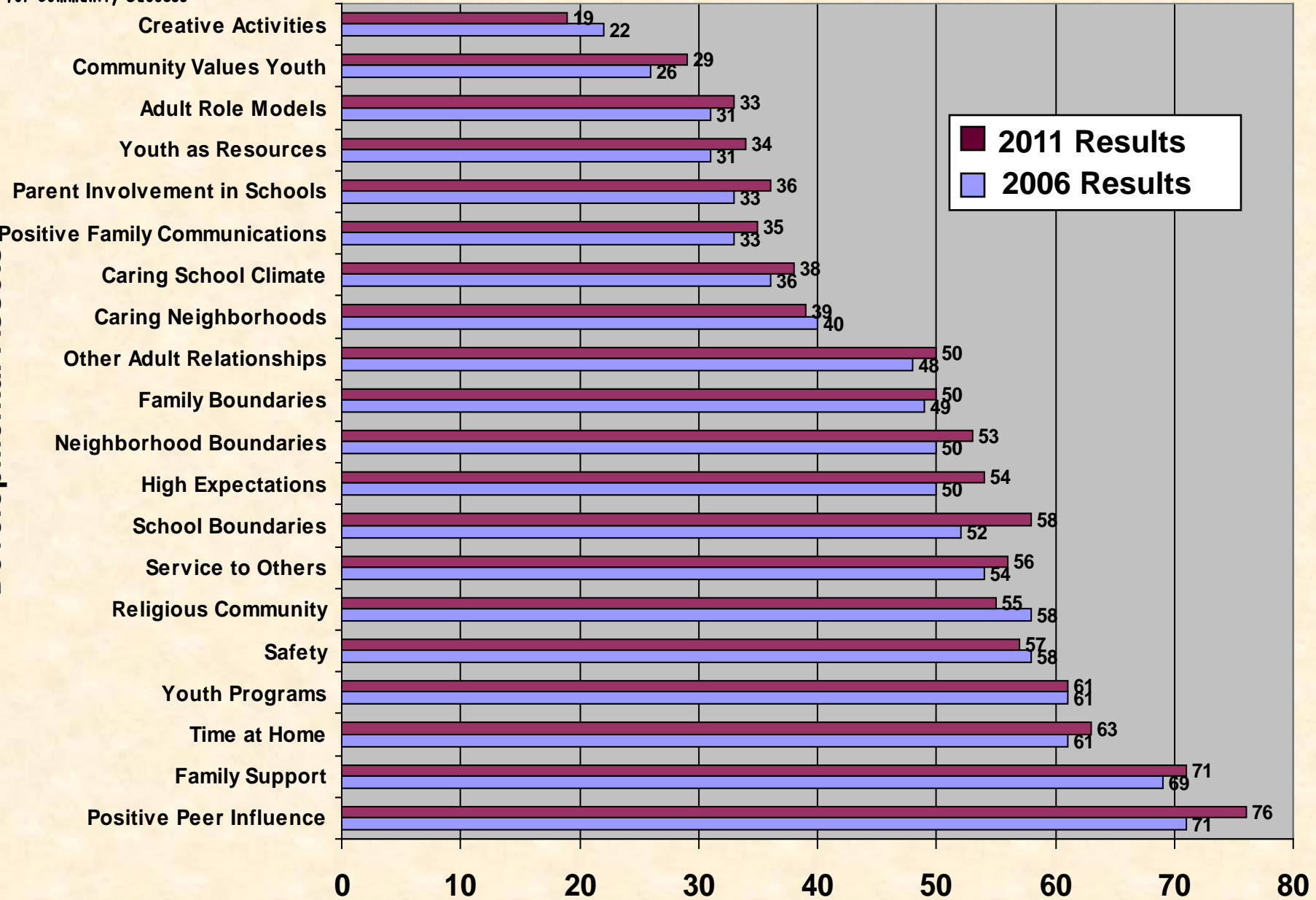


The Legacy Center

for Community Success

# External Developmental Assets 2011 Vs. 2006

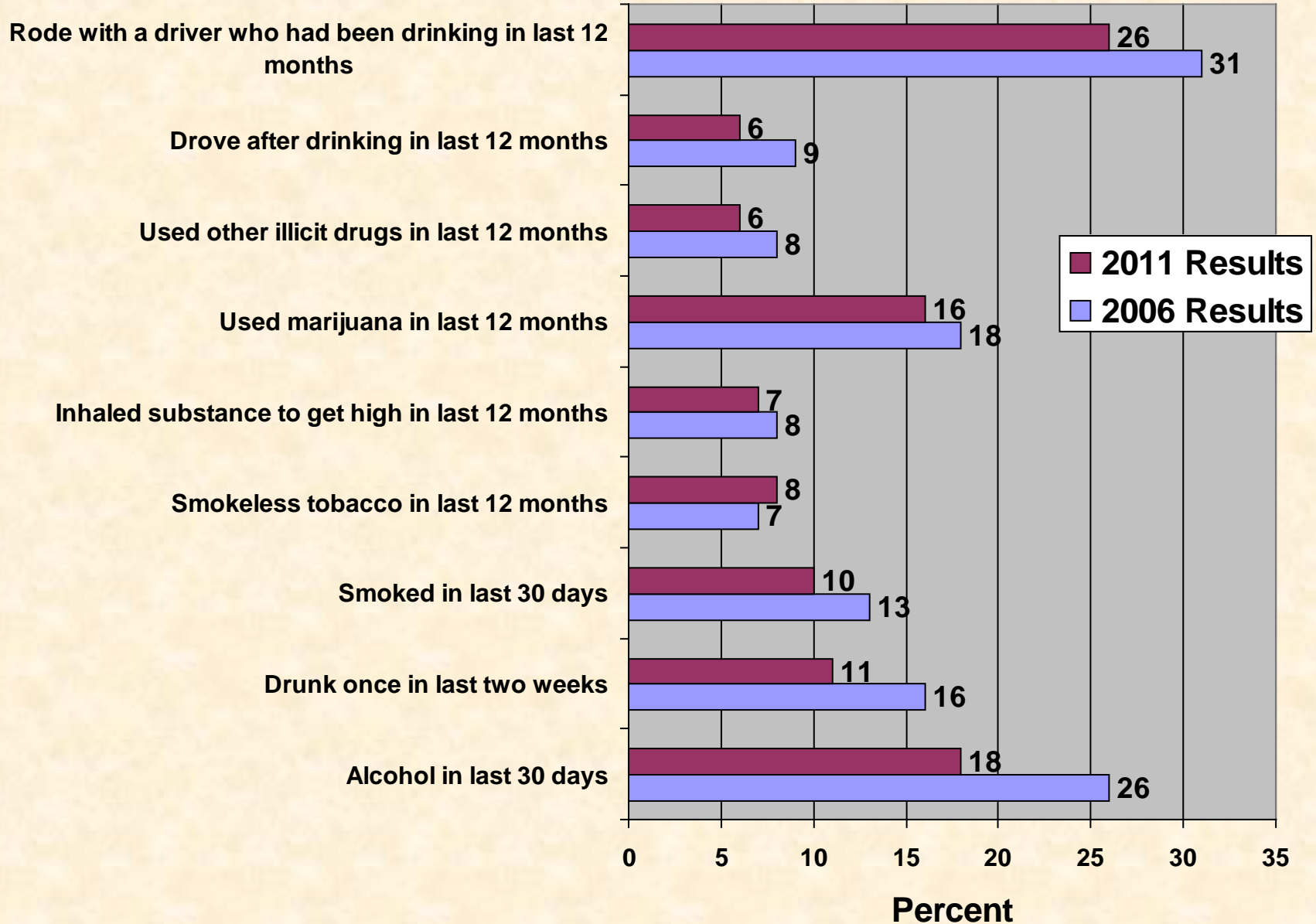
Developmental Assets





# Substance Abusive Behaviors

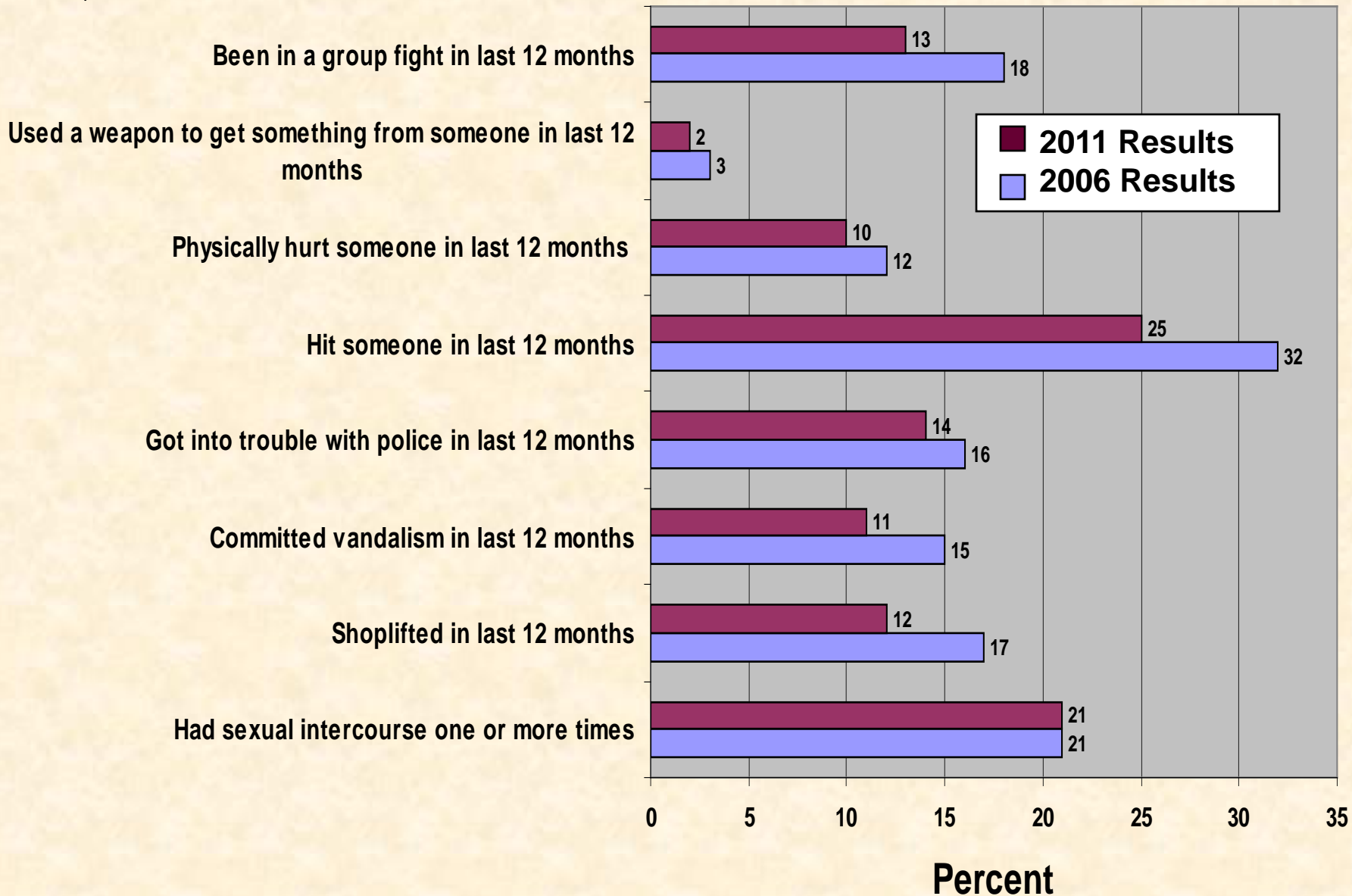
**Risk-Taking Behavior**





# Social Behaviors

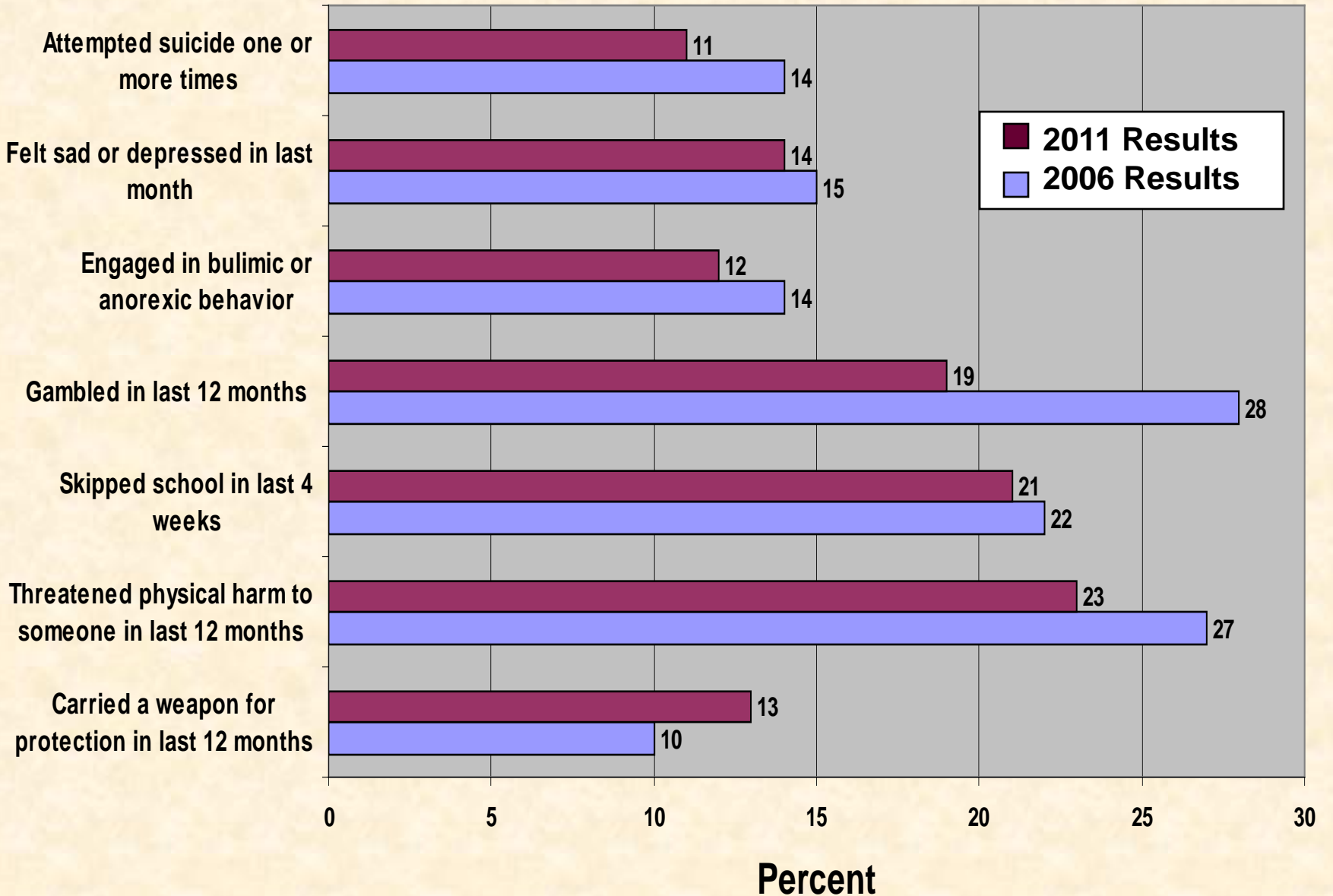
## Risk-Taking Behaviors





# Social Behaviors

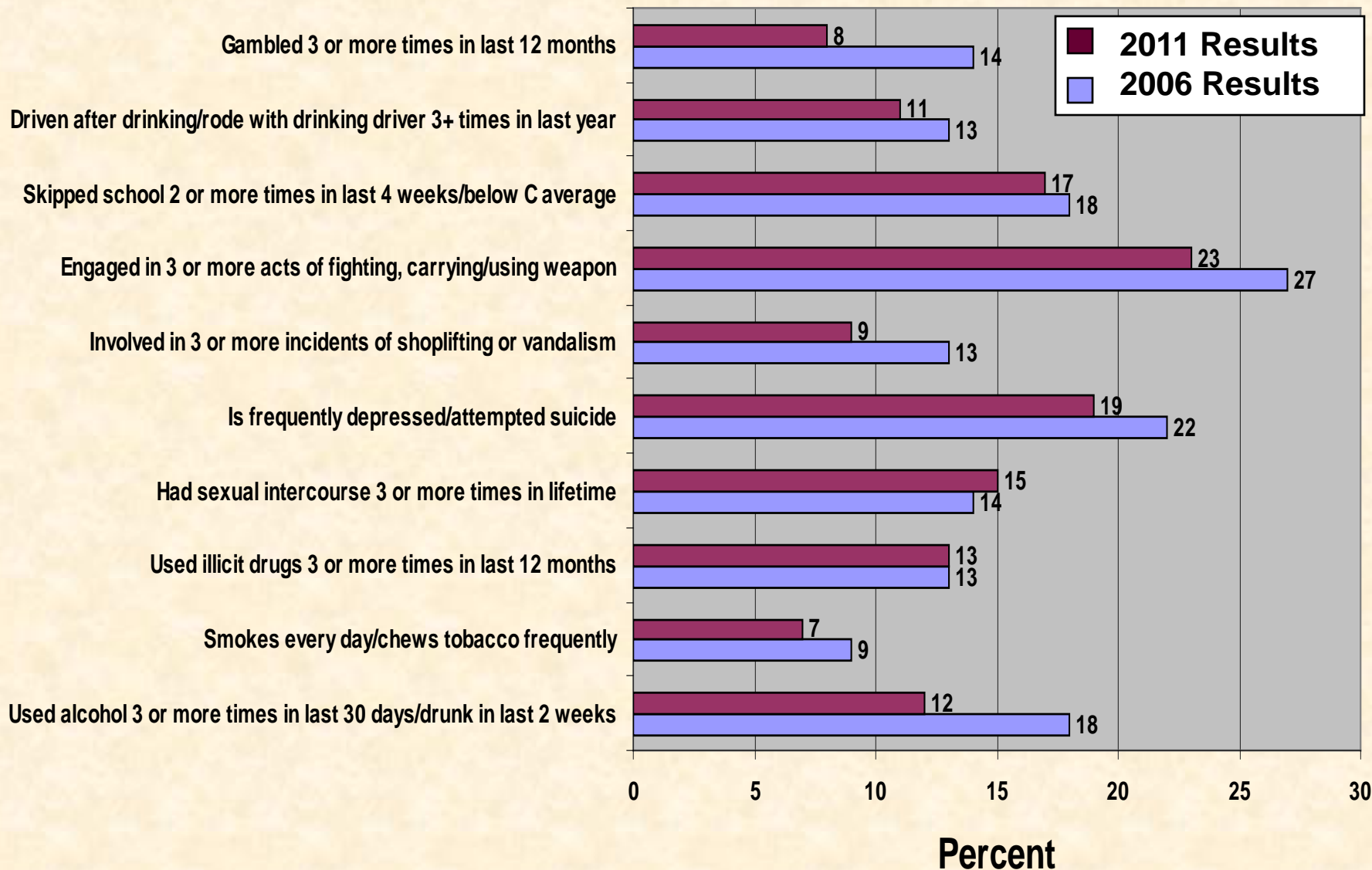
**Risk-Taking Behaviors**





# High Risk Social Behaviors

## Risk-Taking Behaviors

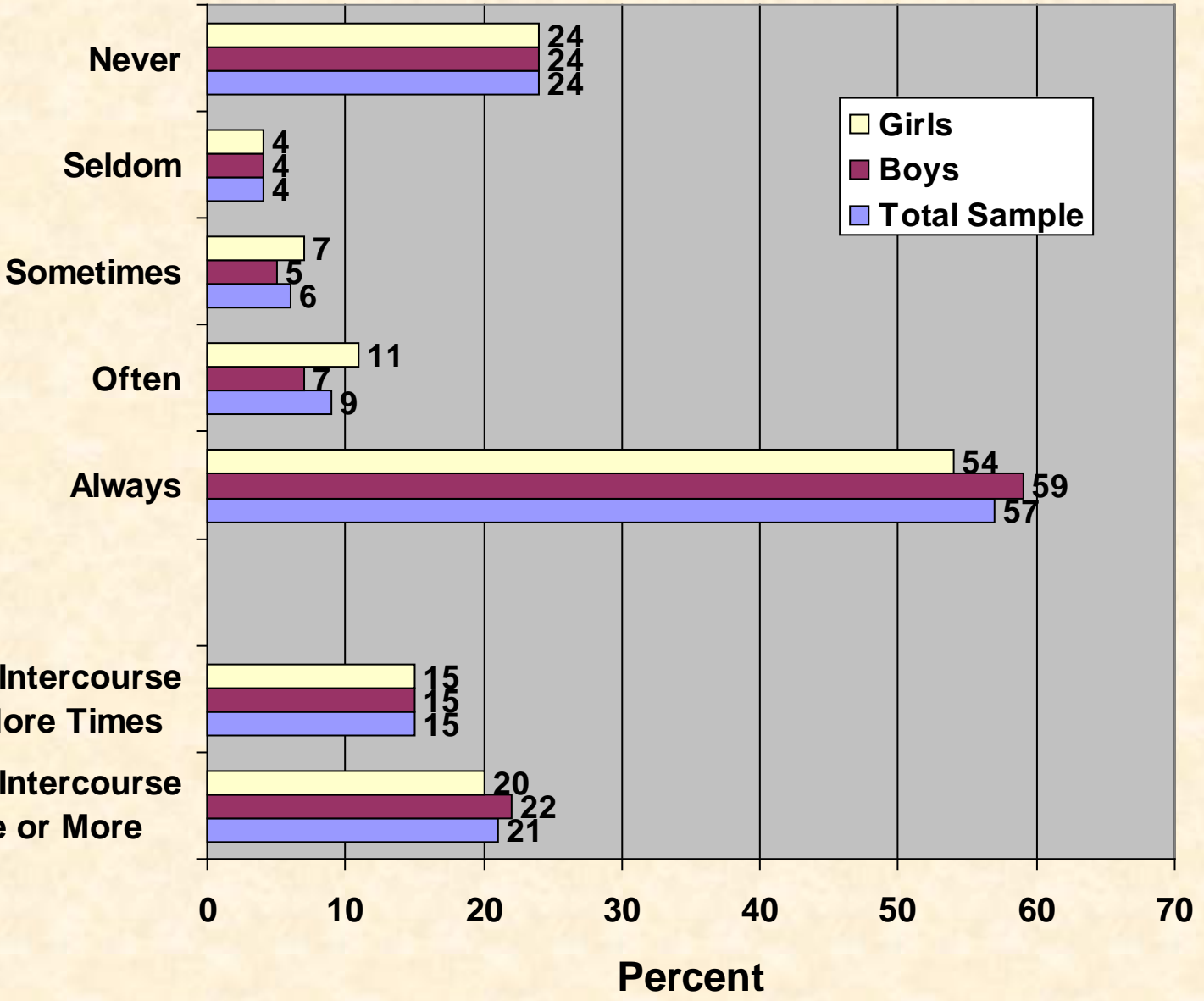




# Sexual Behaviors By Gender

**Behaviors**

**Used Contraception**





# Sexual Activity By Grade Level

