

2020 FLORIDA YOUTH SUBSTANCE ABUSE SURVEY

October 19, 2020

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ICF | Rothenbach Research and Consulting



Presentation Outline

1. Methodology
2. Substance use rates and trends
3. Vaping nicotine, vaping marijuana, and smoking cigarettes
4. Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

Background and Methods

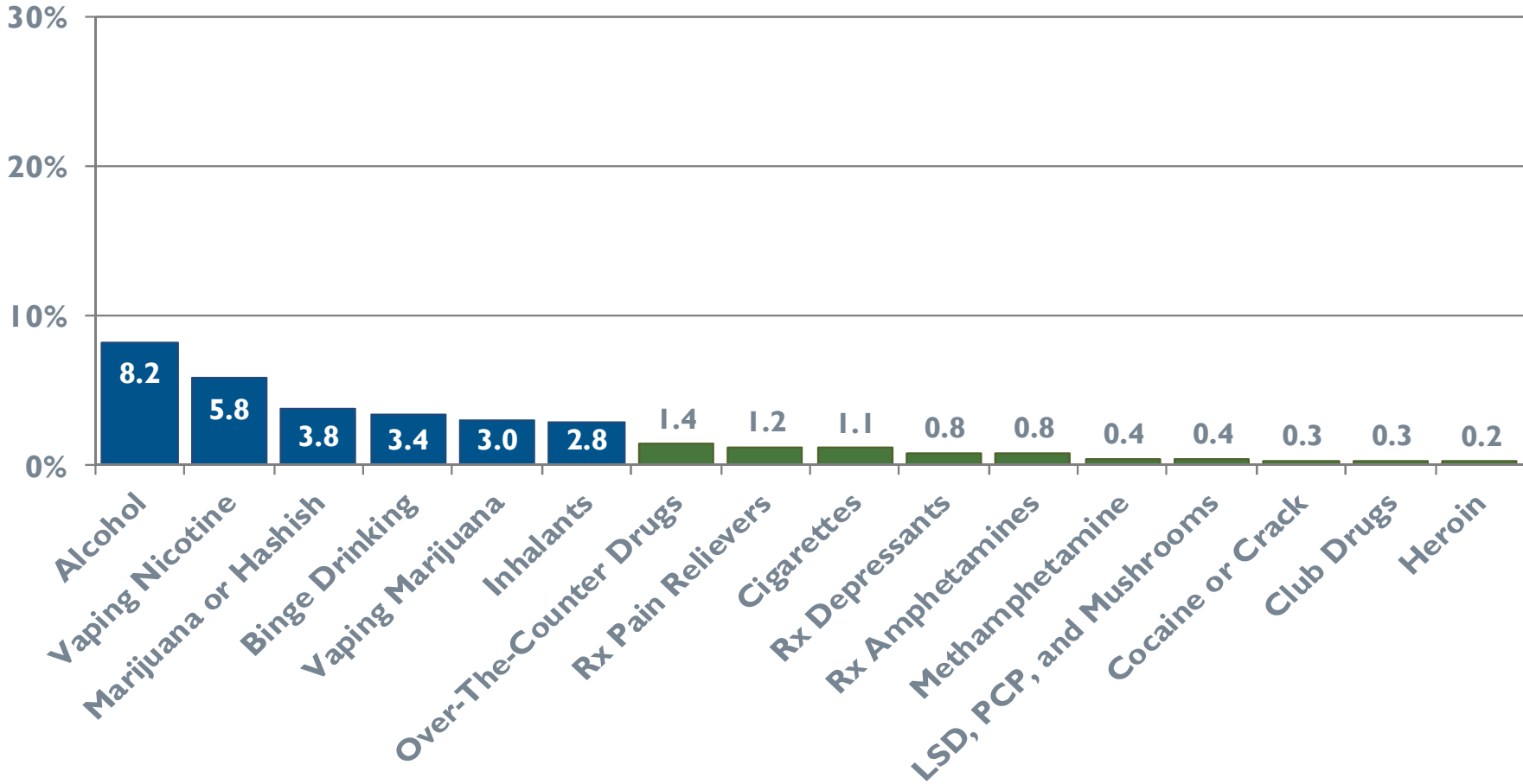
- Since 2002, the FYSAS is administered each spring to public middle school and high school students across Florida.
- In 2020, students were surveyed in 64 out of 67 Florida counties.
- Data collection almost fully complete before COVID-19 lockdown.
- Final sample size was 52,093 across grades 6 through 12.
- Survey administration was almost equally split between paper booklets and web.
- The margin of error is less than 1.0 percentage point for state-level middle school and high school prevalence rates.





Past-30-Day Prevalence

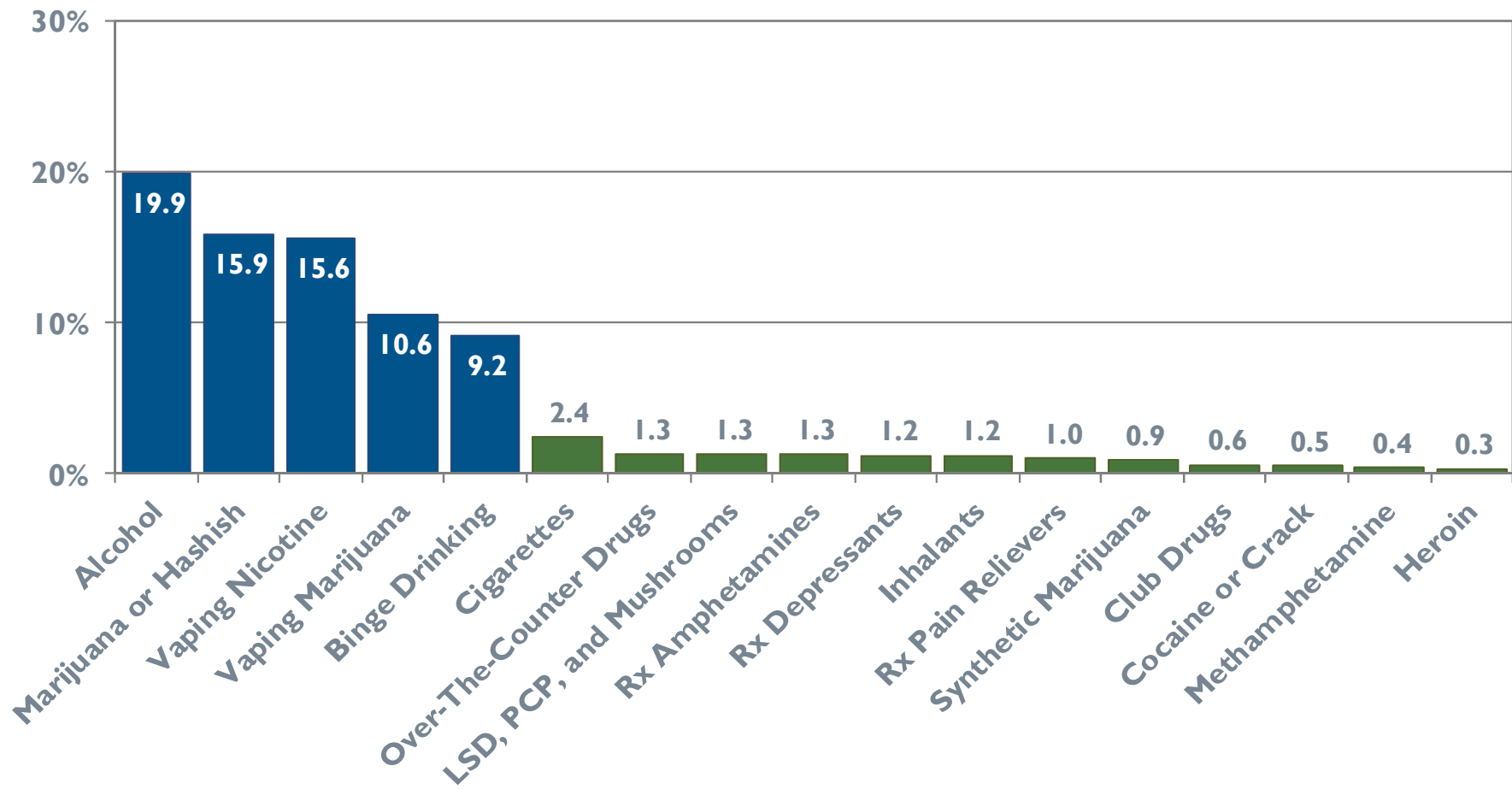
Middle School





Past-30-Day Prevalence

High School



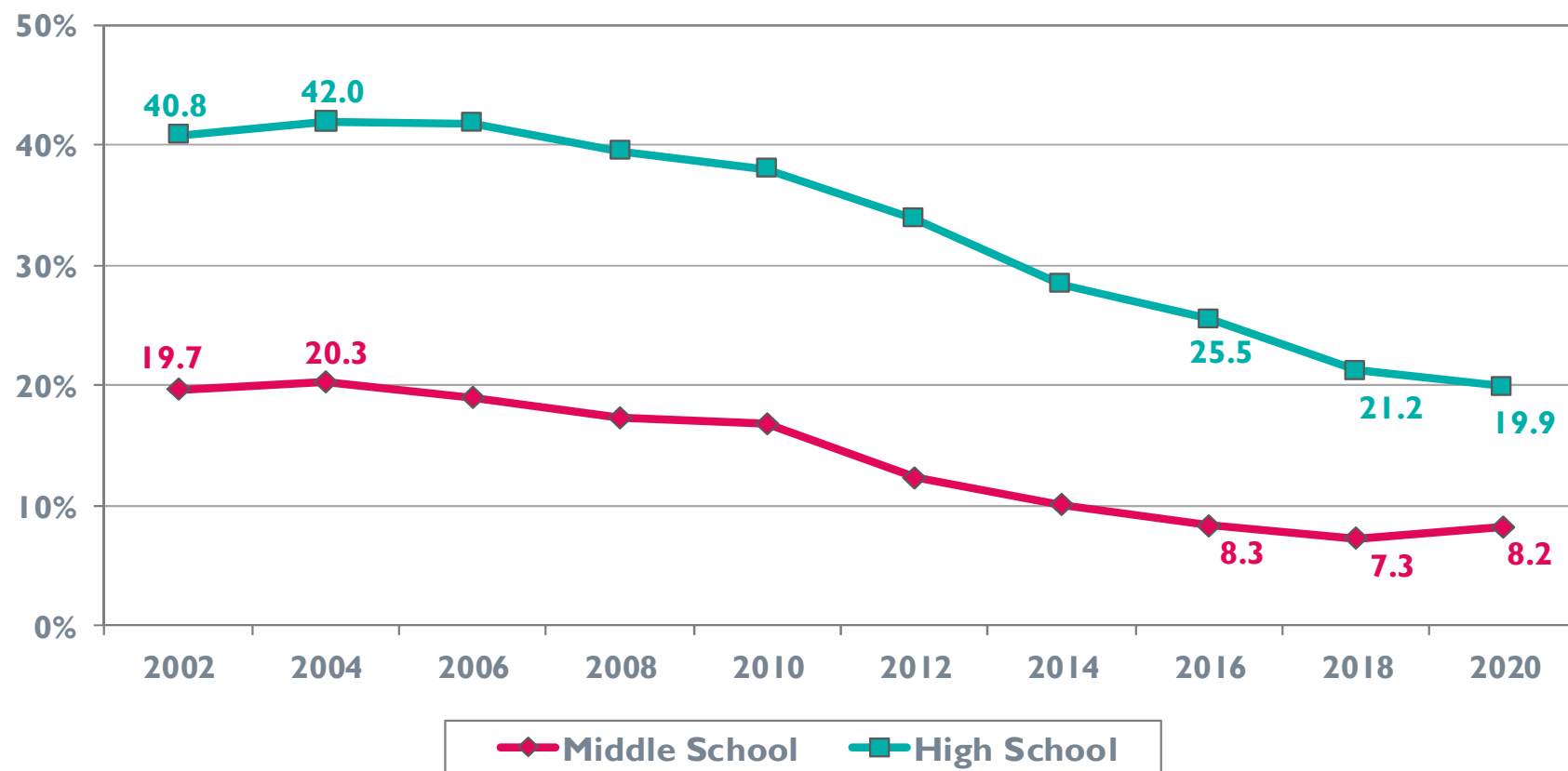
Past-30-Day Drug Use Summary

- Alcohol continues to be the most prevalent form of substance use among Florida students, followed by vaping nicotine, marijuana, and vaping marijuana.
- Rates of use for other drug categories, including cigarettes, are very low.



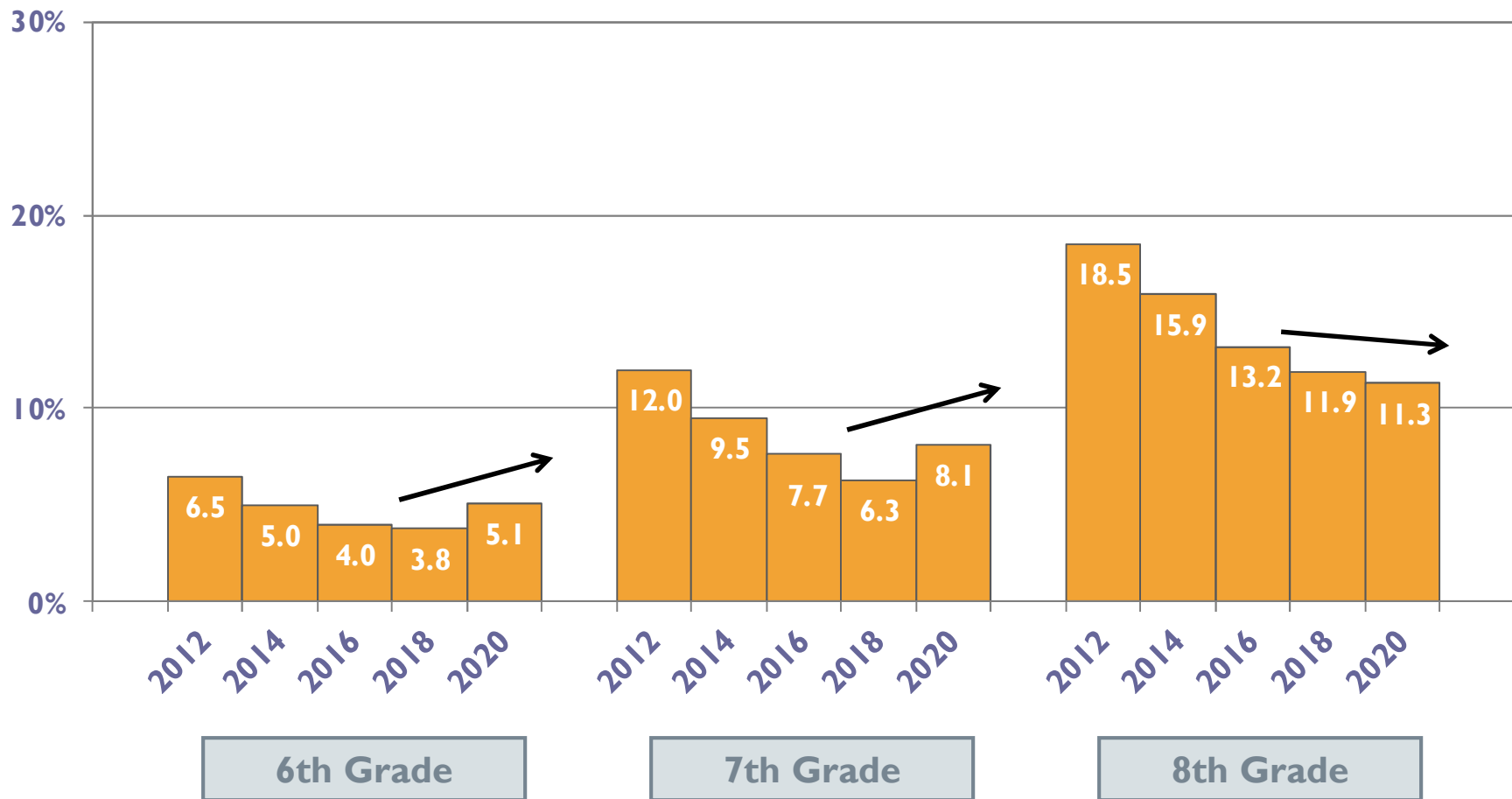
Alcohol

Past-30-Day Prevalence by Grade Cohort



Alcohol

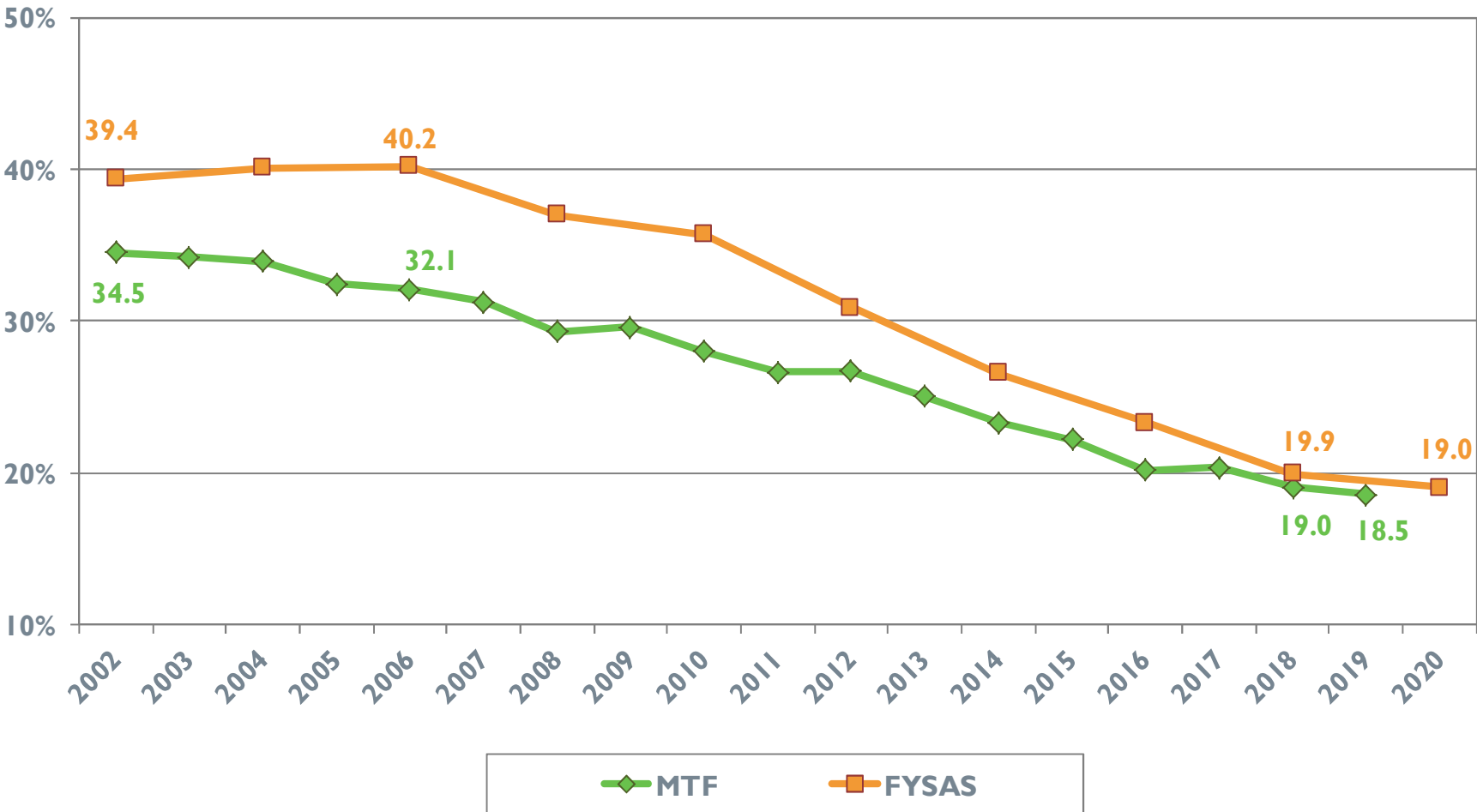
Past-30-Day Prevalence Among Middle School Students





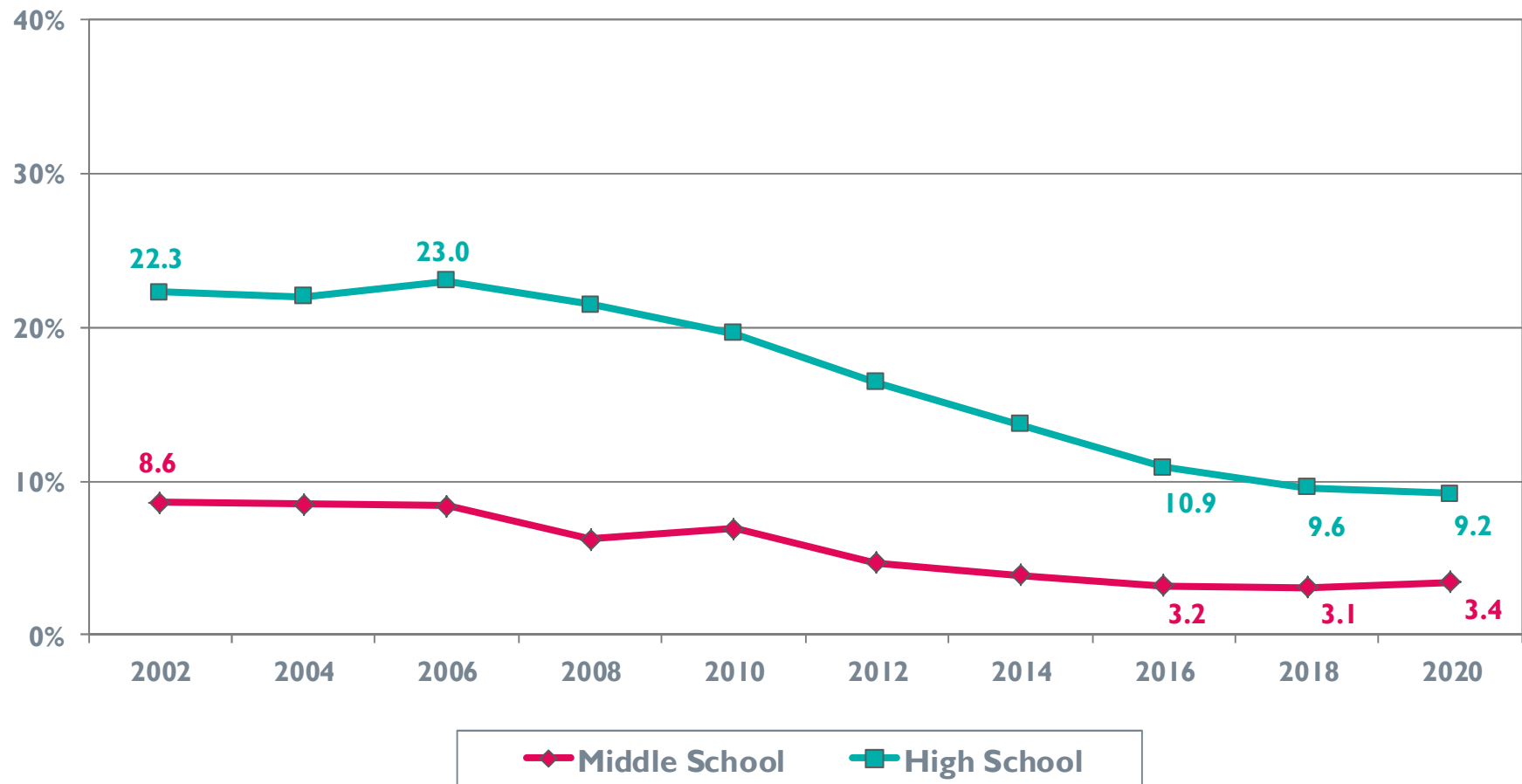
Alcohol

Past-30-Day Prevalence for 8th, 10th and 12th Graders



Binge Drinking

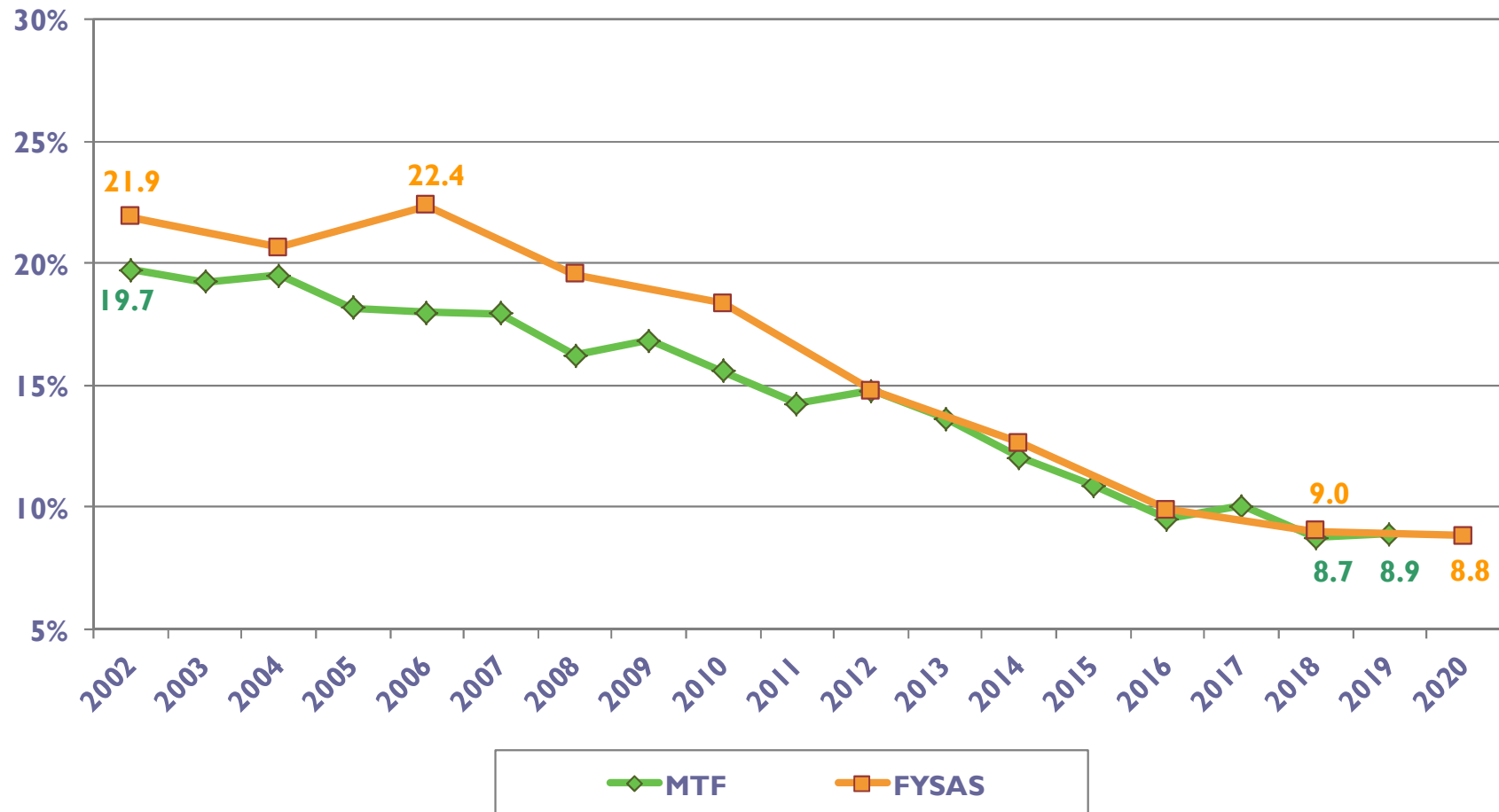
Prevalence by Grade Cohort





Binge Drinking

Prevalence for 8th, 10th and 12th Graders



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The graphic features a blue background with a central image of several hands holding and drinking from white plastic cups. At the top, there are several vertical bars of varying heights and shades of blue and white. The text is overlaid on this background.

MTF Press Release:

12/18/19

In general, alcohol use by adolescents has been in a long-term decline that first began in the 1980s and was interrupted for a few years during the relapse phase in the substance use epidemic in the 1990s.

After [this] long period of decline, the use of alcohol among adolescents appears to be stabilizing.

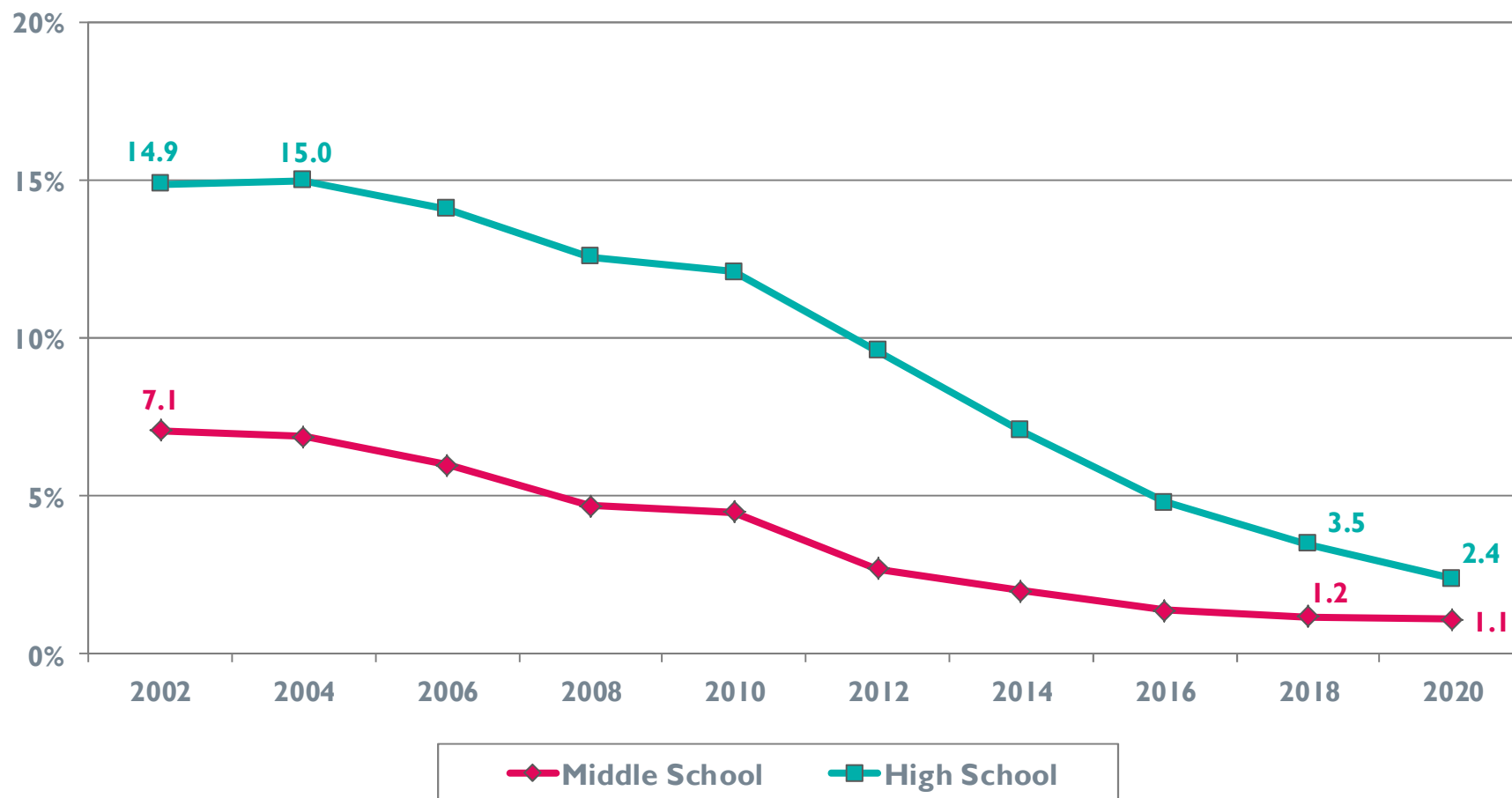
Alcohol Use Trend Summary

- Among H.S. students: The long-term reduction in alcohol use continues, but has slowed considerably.
 - *22.1 percentage point reduction in past-30-day use between 2004 and 2020*
 - *1.3 percentage point reduction in past-30-day use between 2018 and 2020*
- Among M.S. students: The long-term reduction in alcohol use has ended, or at least stalled.
 - *In 2020, past-30-day use increased 1.3 and 1.8 percentage points among 6th and 7th graders, respectively*
- Results suggest a cohort effect, with higher rates of use originating among younger students before migrating into the higher grade levels.



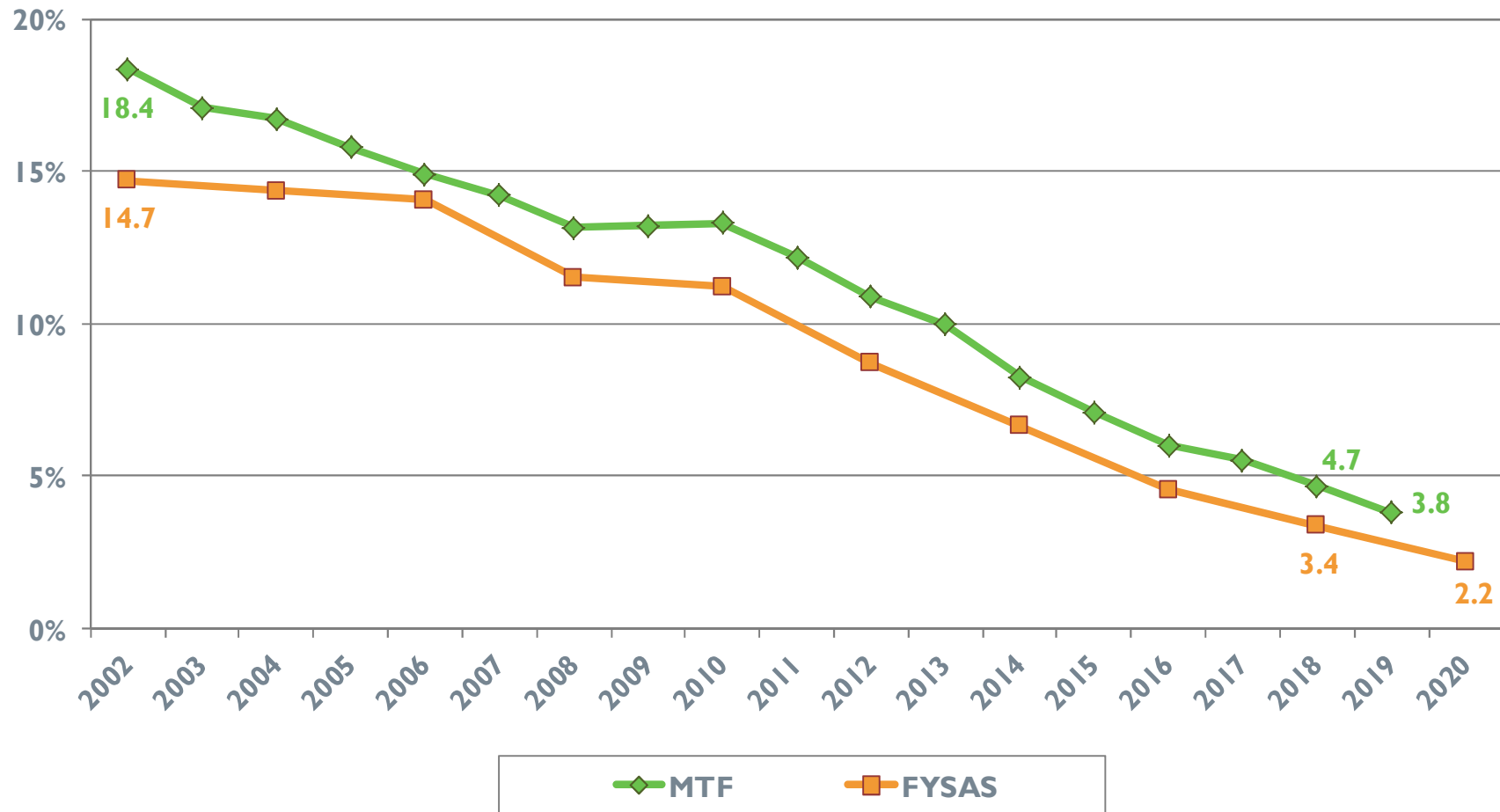
Cigarettes

Past-30-Day Prevalence by Grade Cohort



Cigarettes

Past-30-Day Prevalence for 8th, 10th and 12th Graders



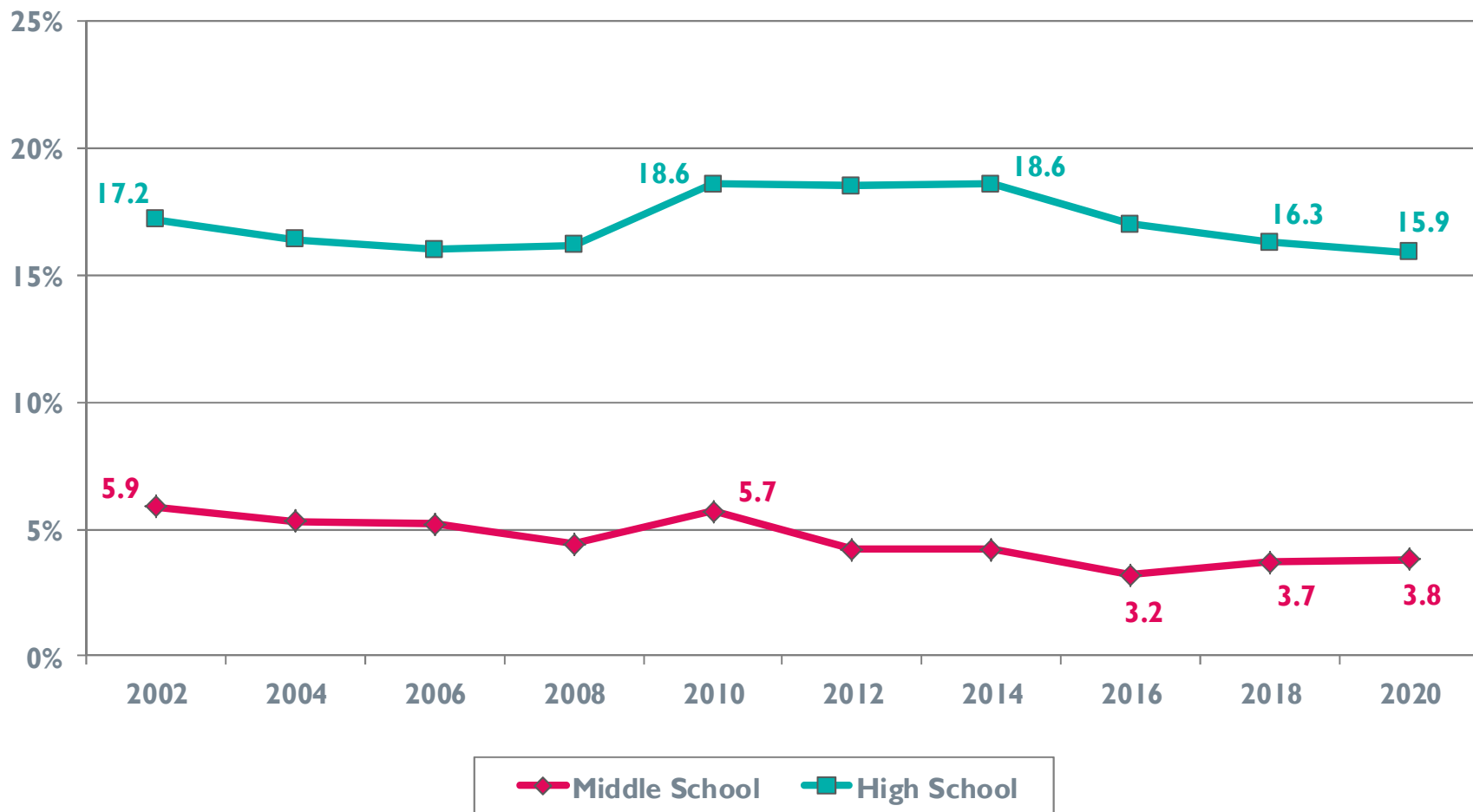
Cigarette Use Trend Summary

- The long-term reduction in cigarette use among Florida students continued in 2020.
- Among H.S. students, past-30-day cigarette use has dropped from 15.0% in 2004 to 2.4% in 2020.
- Among M.S. students, past-30-day cigarette use has dropped from 7.1% in 2002 to 1.1% in 2020.
- The prevalence rate for smoking cigarettes is now as low or nearly as low as the rates for “hard” drugs.



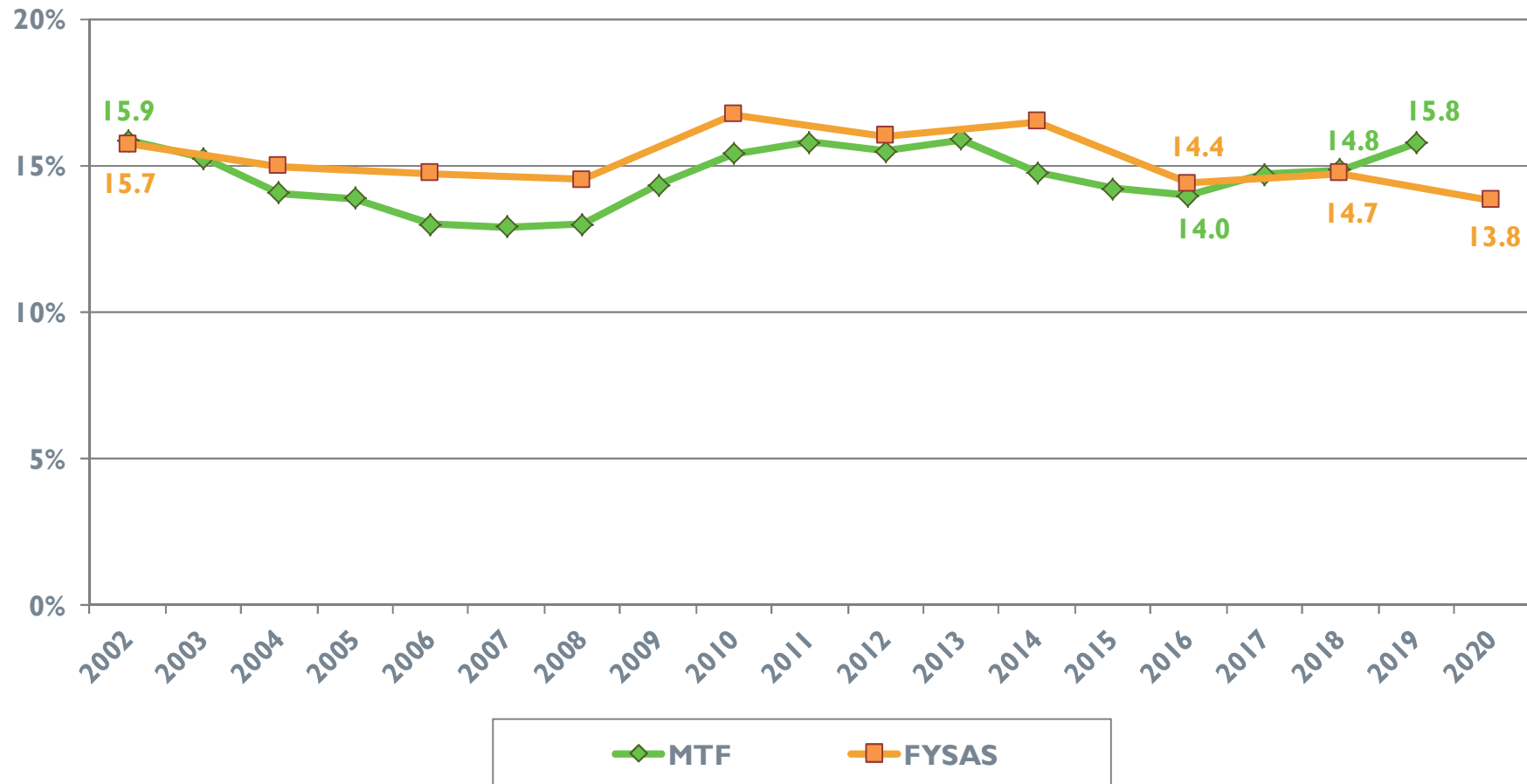
Marijuana

Past-30-Day Prevalence by Grade Cohort



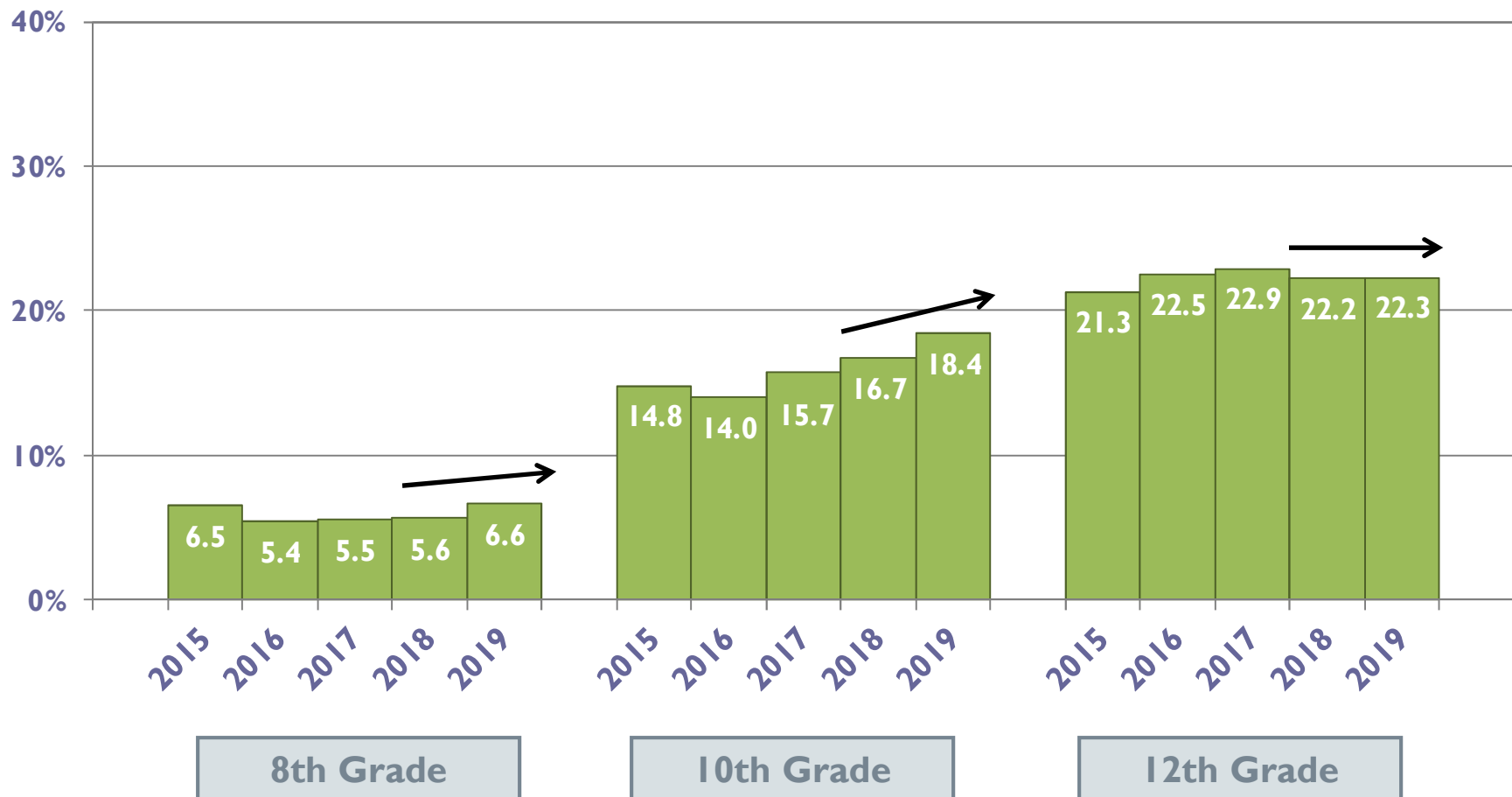
Marijuana

Past-30-Day Prevalence for 8th, 10th and 12th Graders



Marijuana Use National Trend

MTF, Past-30-Day Prevalence



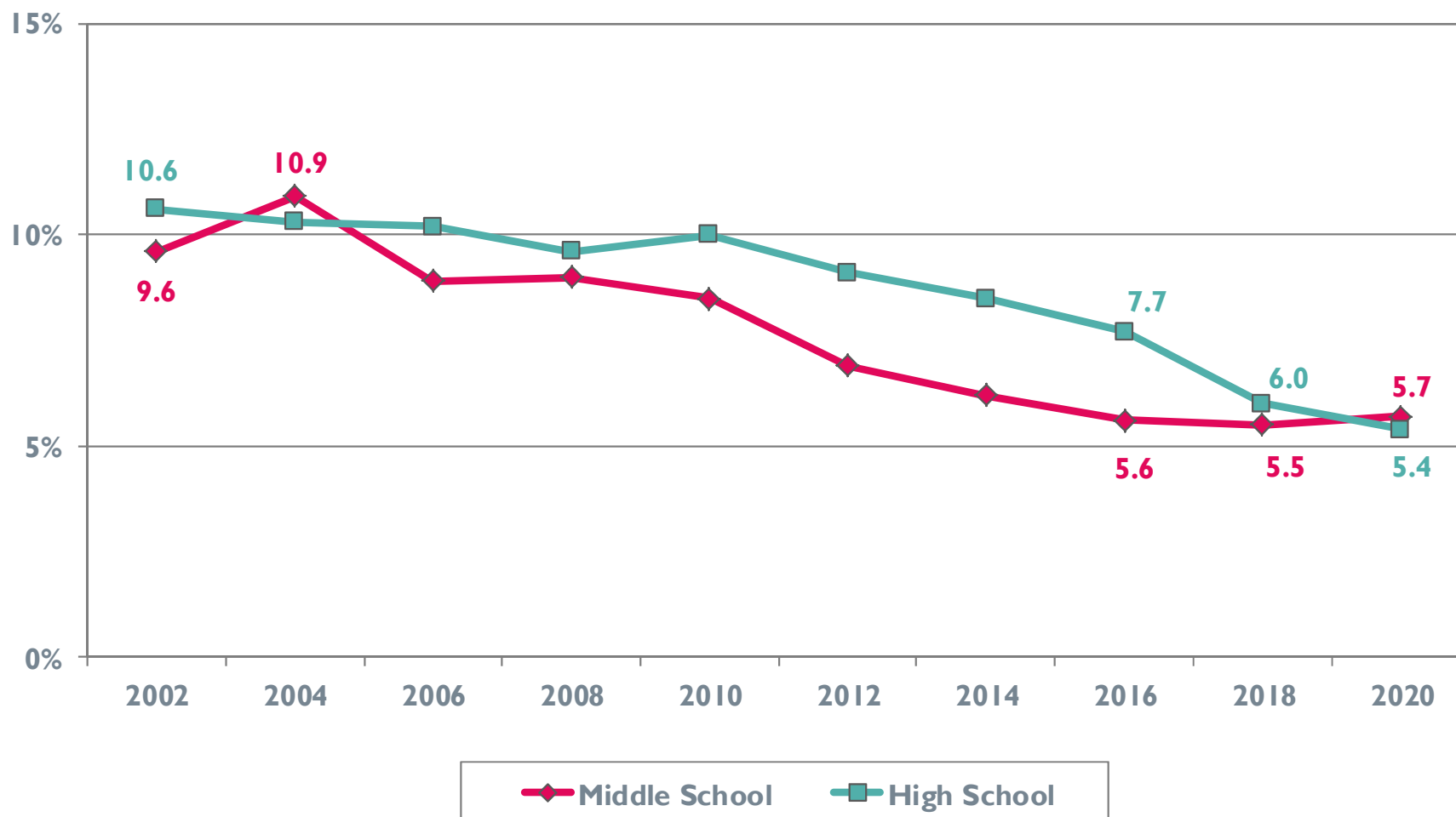
Marijuana Use Trend Summary

- Among H.S. students, 2020 data show a continuation in the reduction in marijuana use.
→ *Past-30-day use has dropped from 18.6% in 2014 to 15.9% in 2020*
- Among M.S. students, marijuana use showed no meaningful change between 2018 and 2020, after a 0.5 percentage point increase between 2016 and 2018.
- National data are beginning to show increases in marijuana use among younger students, suggesting a cohort effect.



Use of Any Illicit Drug (Other than Marijuana)

Past-30-Day Prevalence by Grade Cohort

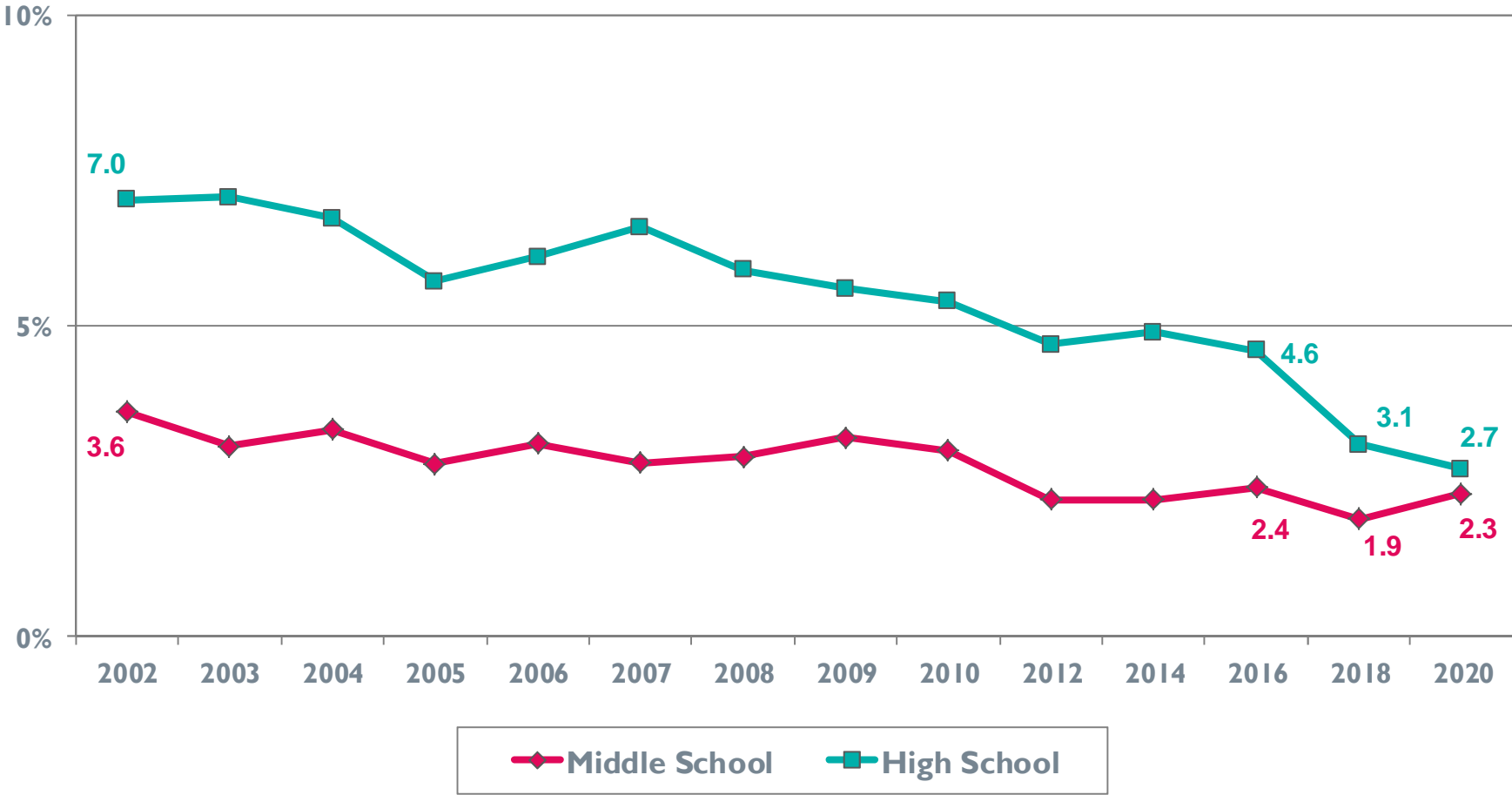


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Any Prescription Drug

Past-30-Day Prevalence by Grade Cohort



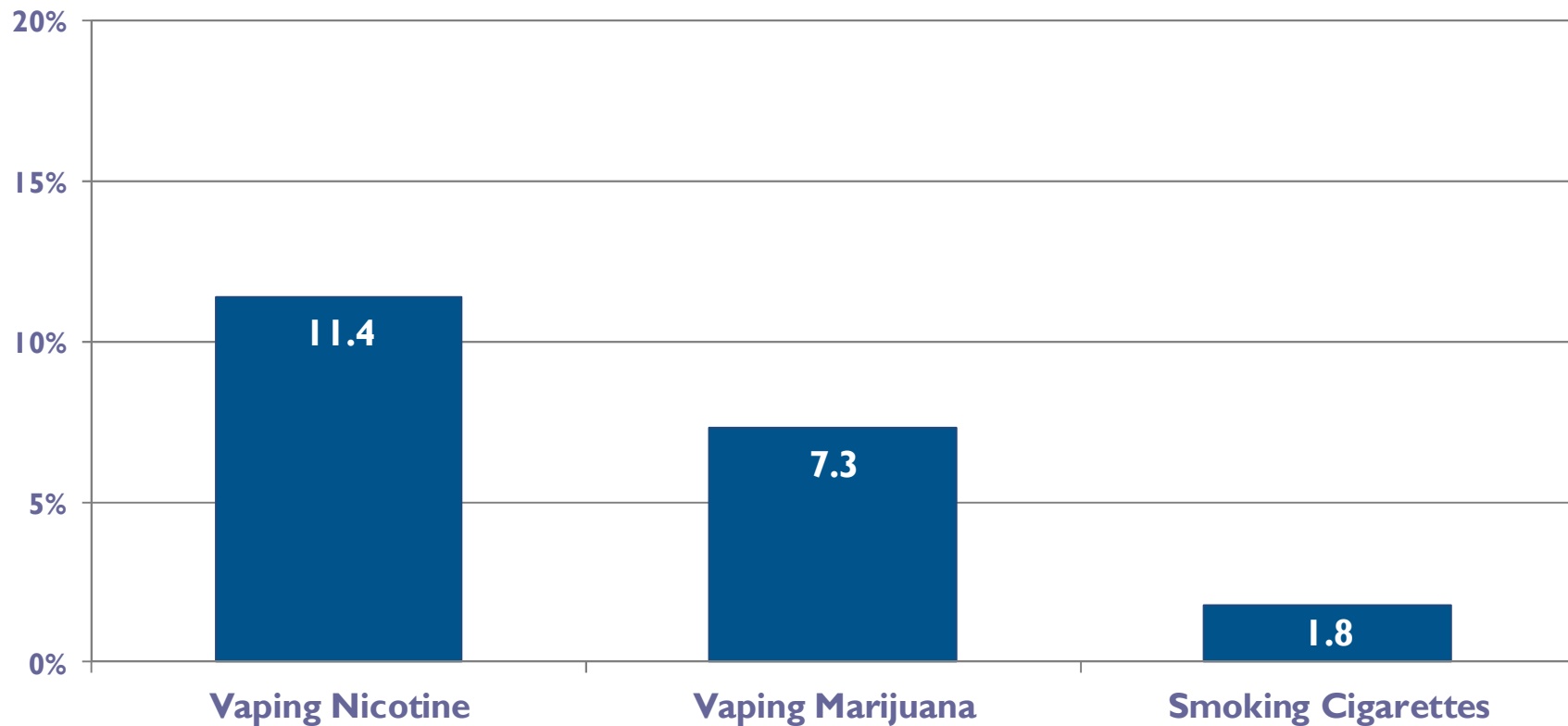
FYSAS Trend Summary

- Among H.S. students, alcohol, cigarette, marijuana, and Rx drug use continue their long-term decline.
- Among M.S. students, the substance use decline has stalled.
 - *Possibility #1: Pause in the downward trend line*
 - *Possibility #2: Bouncing along the bottom*
 - *Possibility #3: Start of a reversal, as younger cohorts of Florida students adopt riskier substance use behaviors*



Vaping and Cigarette Use

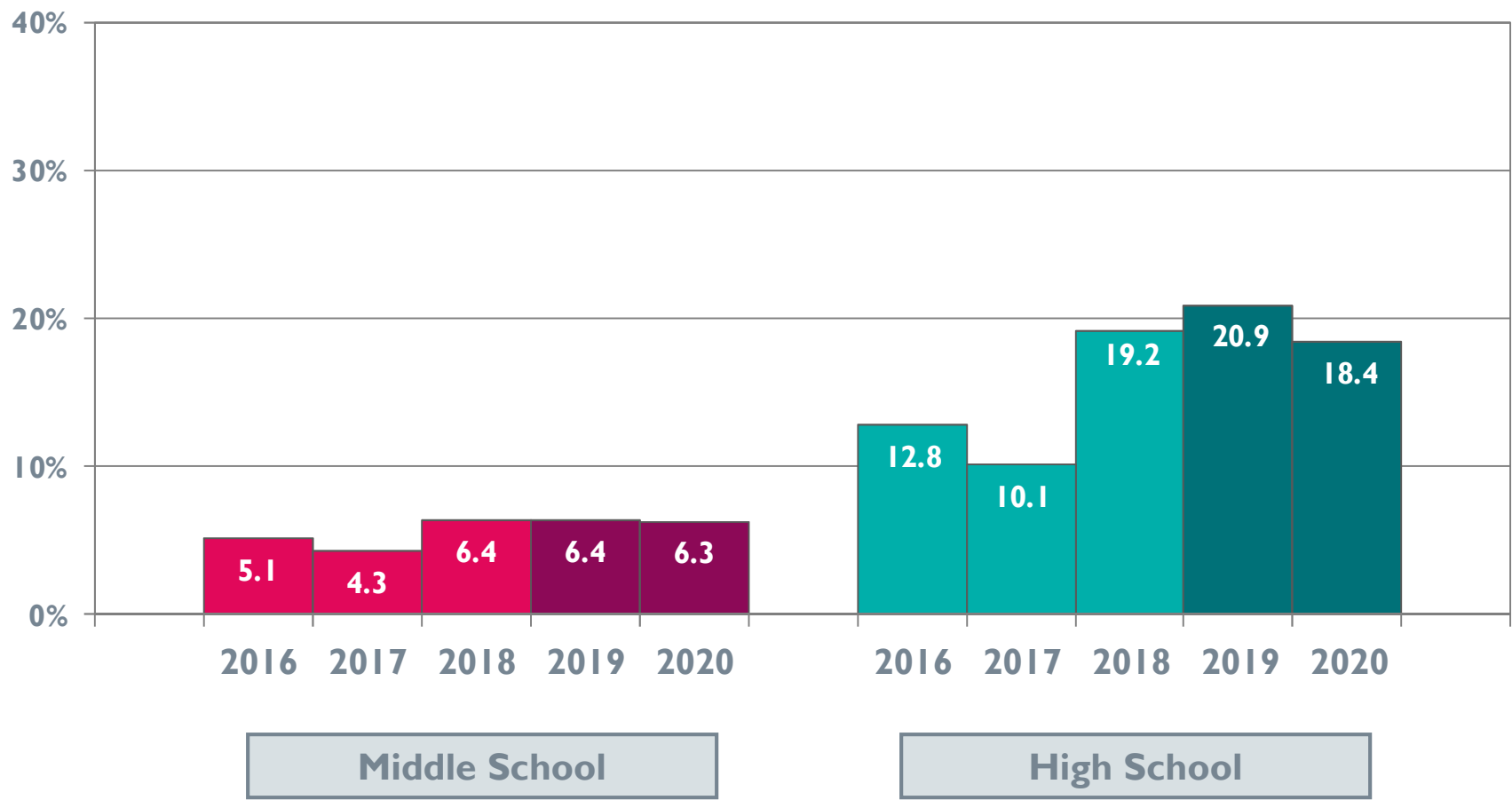
Past-30-Day Prevalence





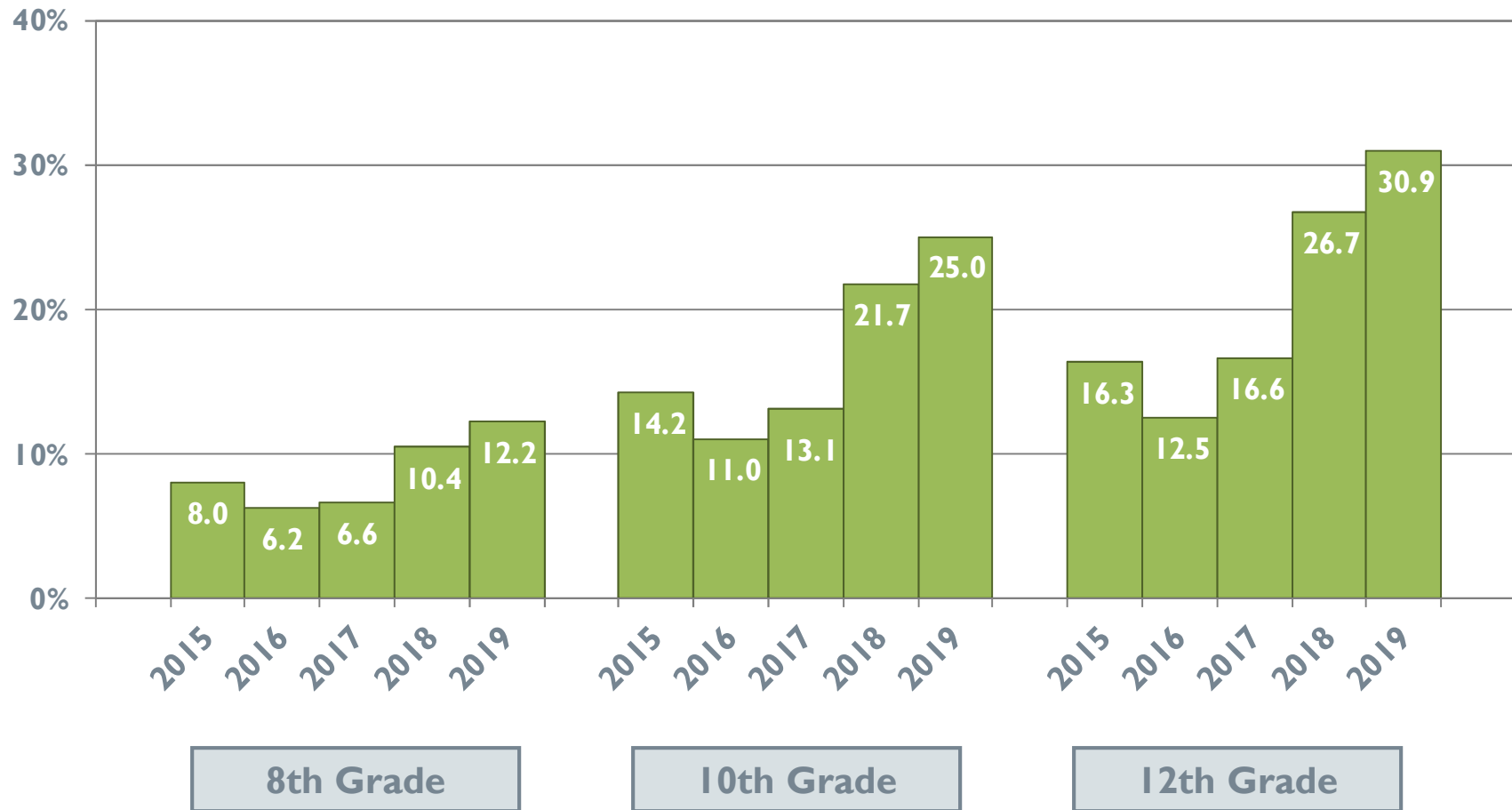
Any Vaping Trend

Past-30-Day Prevalence



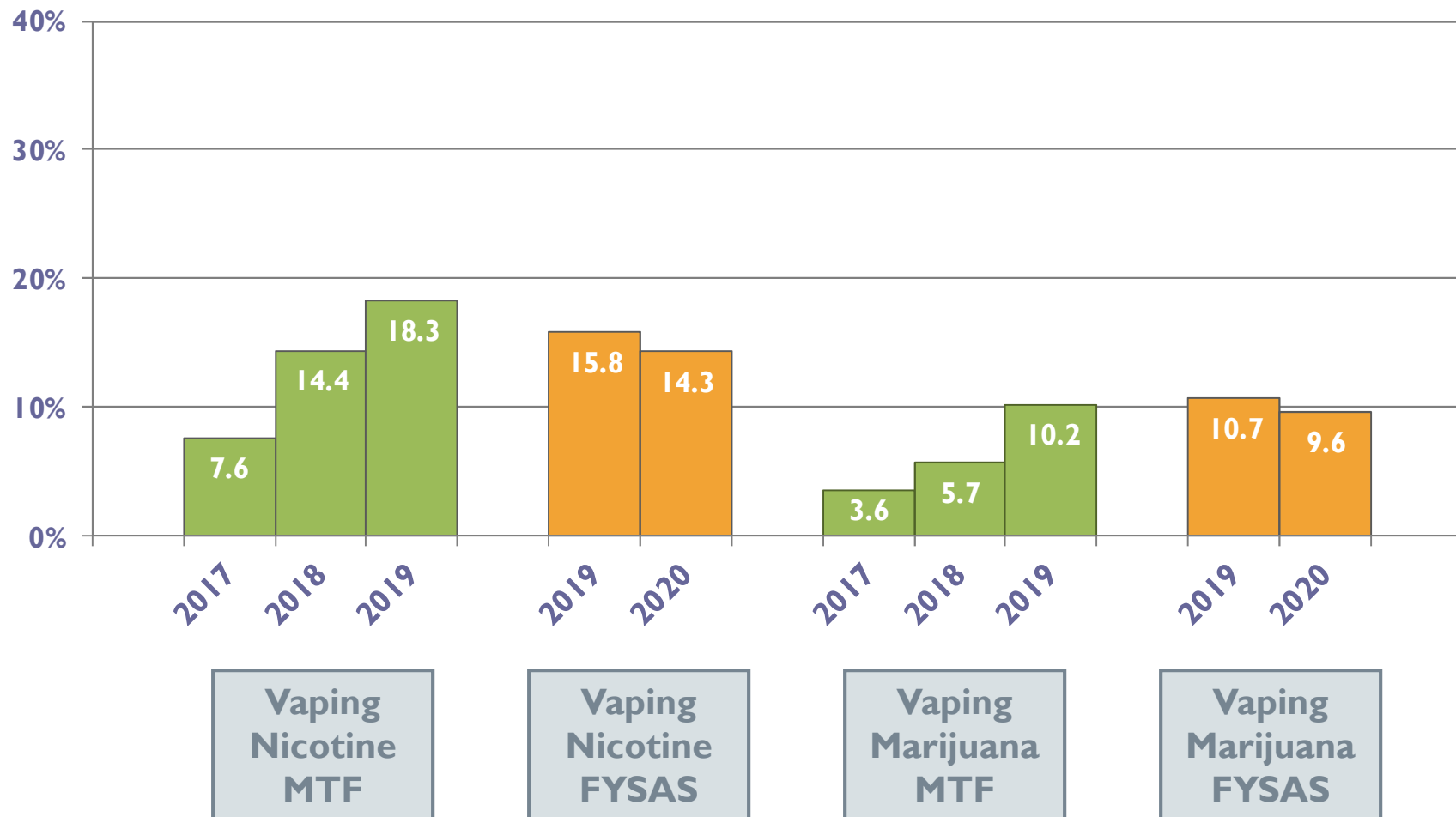
Any Vaping National Trend

MTF, Past-30-Day Prevalence



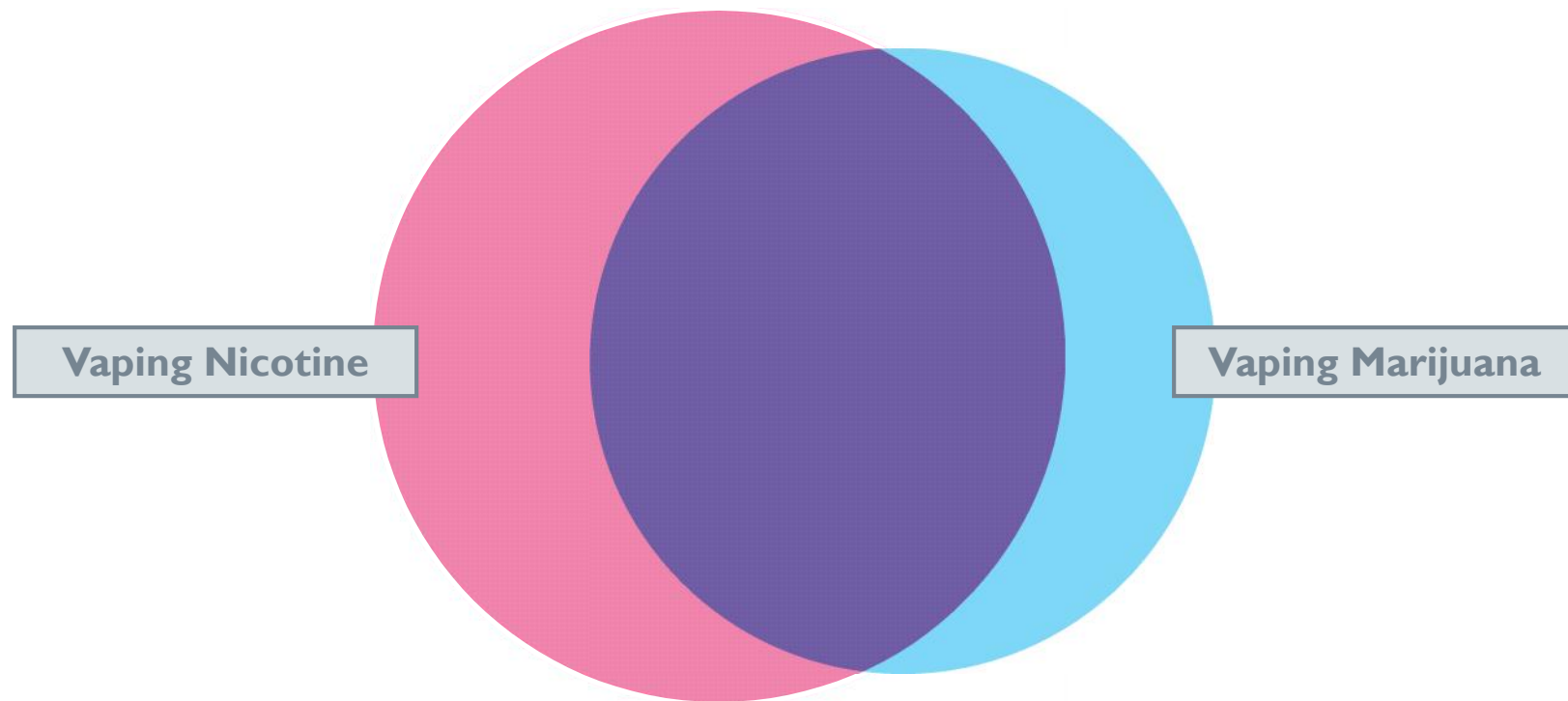
Vaping Trend: MTF and FYSAS

8th, 10th, and 12th Grades, Past-30-Day Prevalence



Vaping Nicotine and Vaping Marijuana

Past-30-Day Prevalence

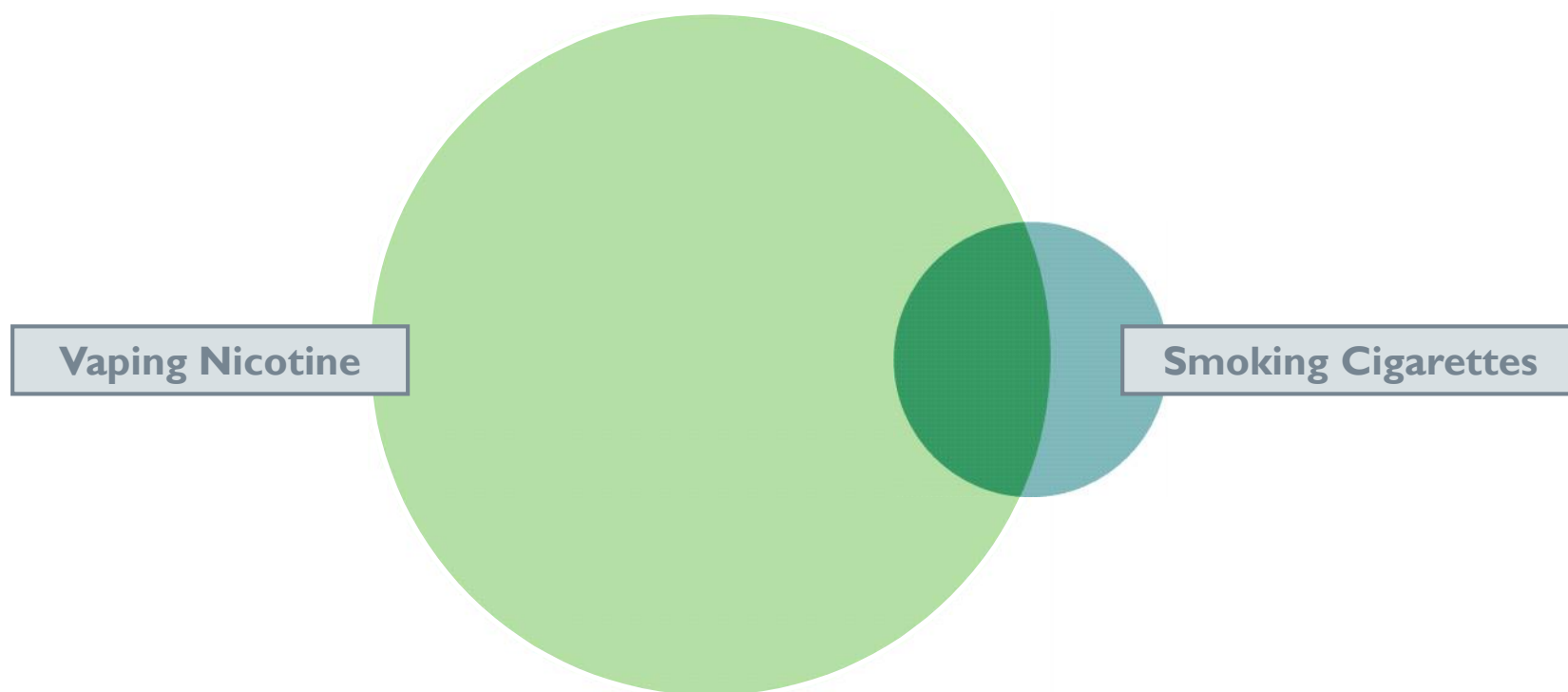


48.3% of current nicotine vapers are vaping marijuana.
75.0% of current marijuana vapers are vaping nicotine.



Vaping Nicotine and Smoking Cigarettes

Past-30-Day Prevalence



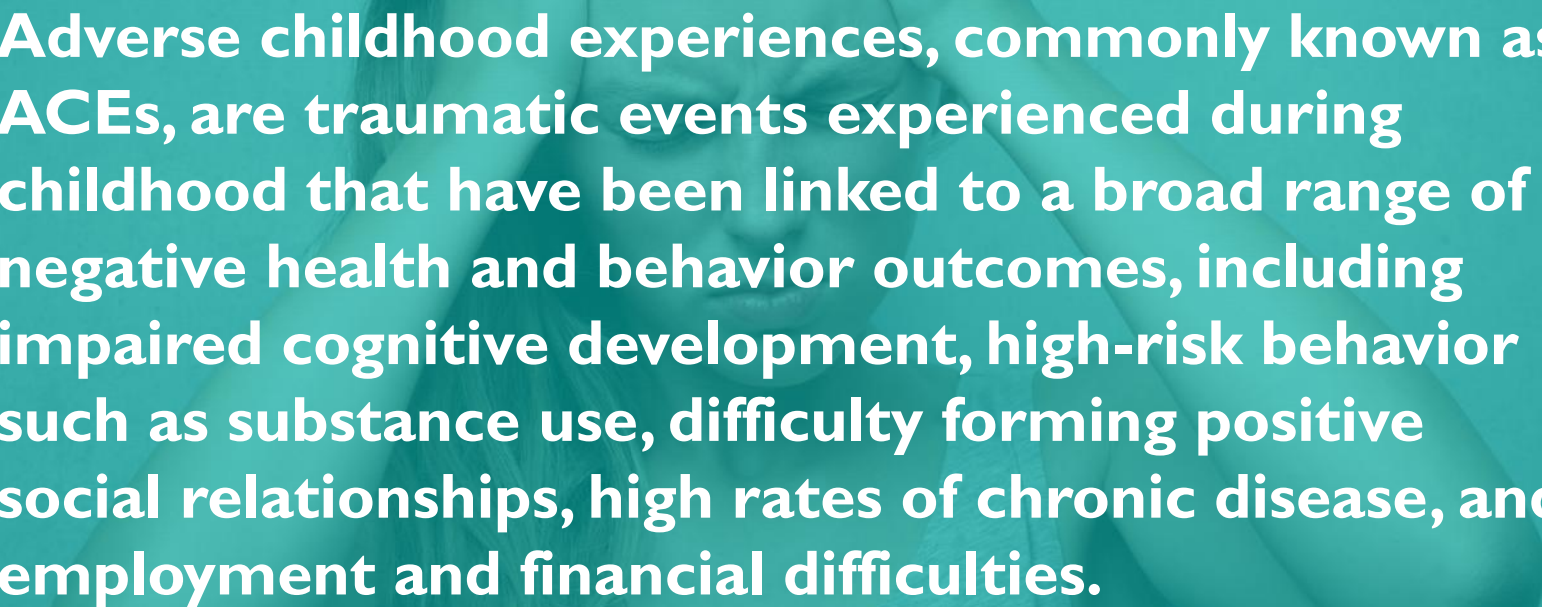
Only 9.1% of current nicotine vapers smoke cigarettes.
54.0% of cigarette smokers vape nicotine.

Vaping Summary

- Among Florida students, the vaping epidemic appears to have peaked, with rates for both vaping nicotine and vaping marijuana decreasing between 2019 and 2020.
- There is a large overlap between vaping nicotine and vaping marijuana.
 - *Vaping isn't a nicotine delivery system that is occasionally used with marijuana. Nearly half of students who vape do both.*
- Few current nicotine vapers (9.1%) also smoke cigarettes.
 - *The majority of students who vape nicotine did not transition from smoking cigarettes. Their vaping is independent of cigarette use.*



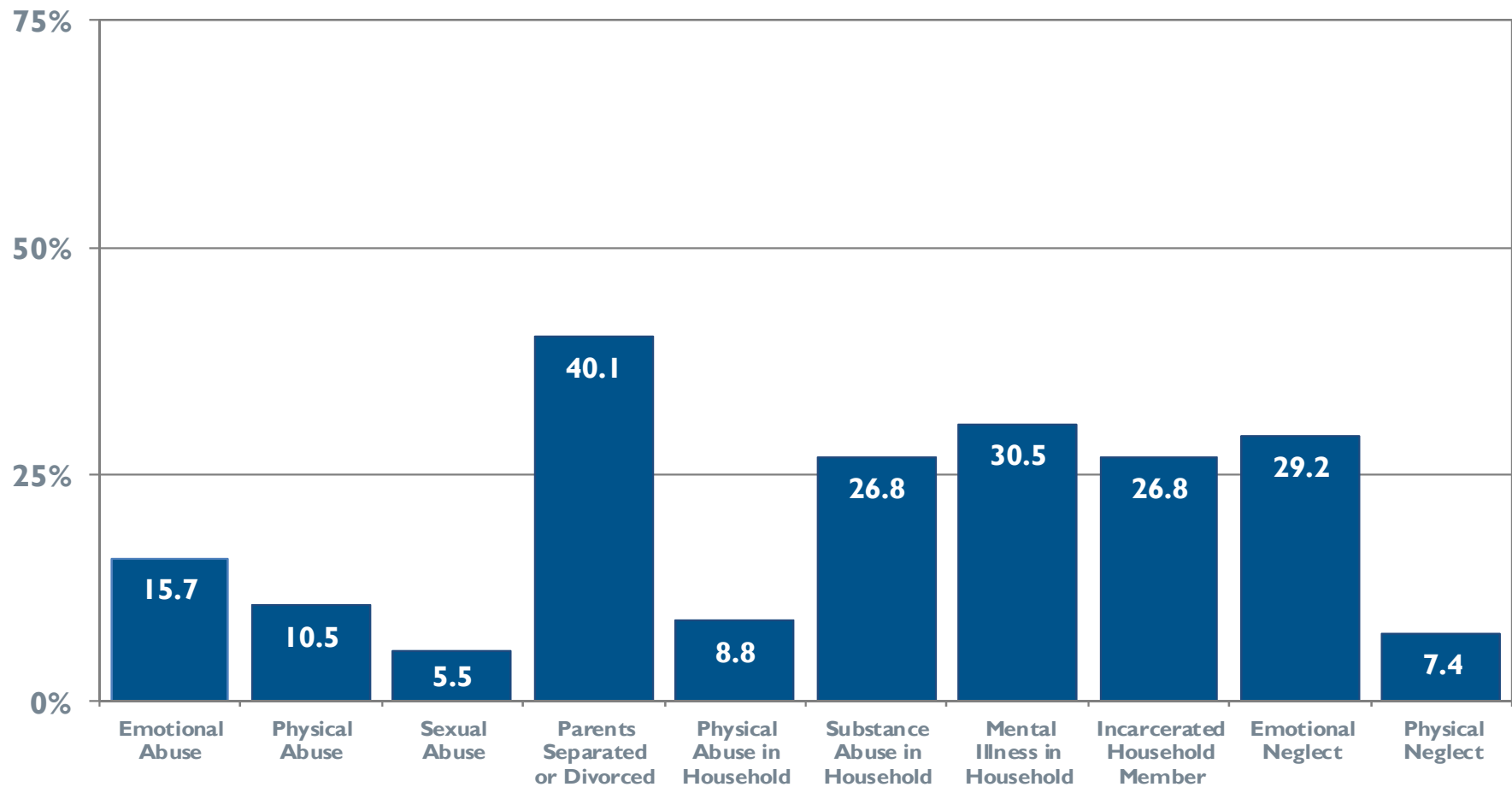
Adverse Childhood Experiences



Adverse childhood experiences, commonly known as ACEs, are traumatic events experienced during childhood that have been linked to a broad range of negative health and behavior outcomes, including impaired cognitive development, high-risk behavior such as substance use, difficulty forming positive social relationships, high rates of chronic disease, and employment and financial difficulties.

How Prevalent is Childhood Trauma?

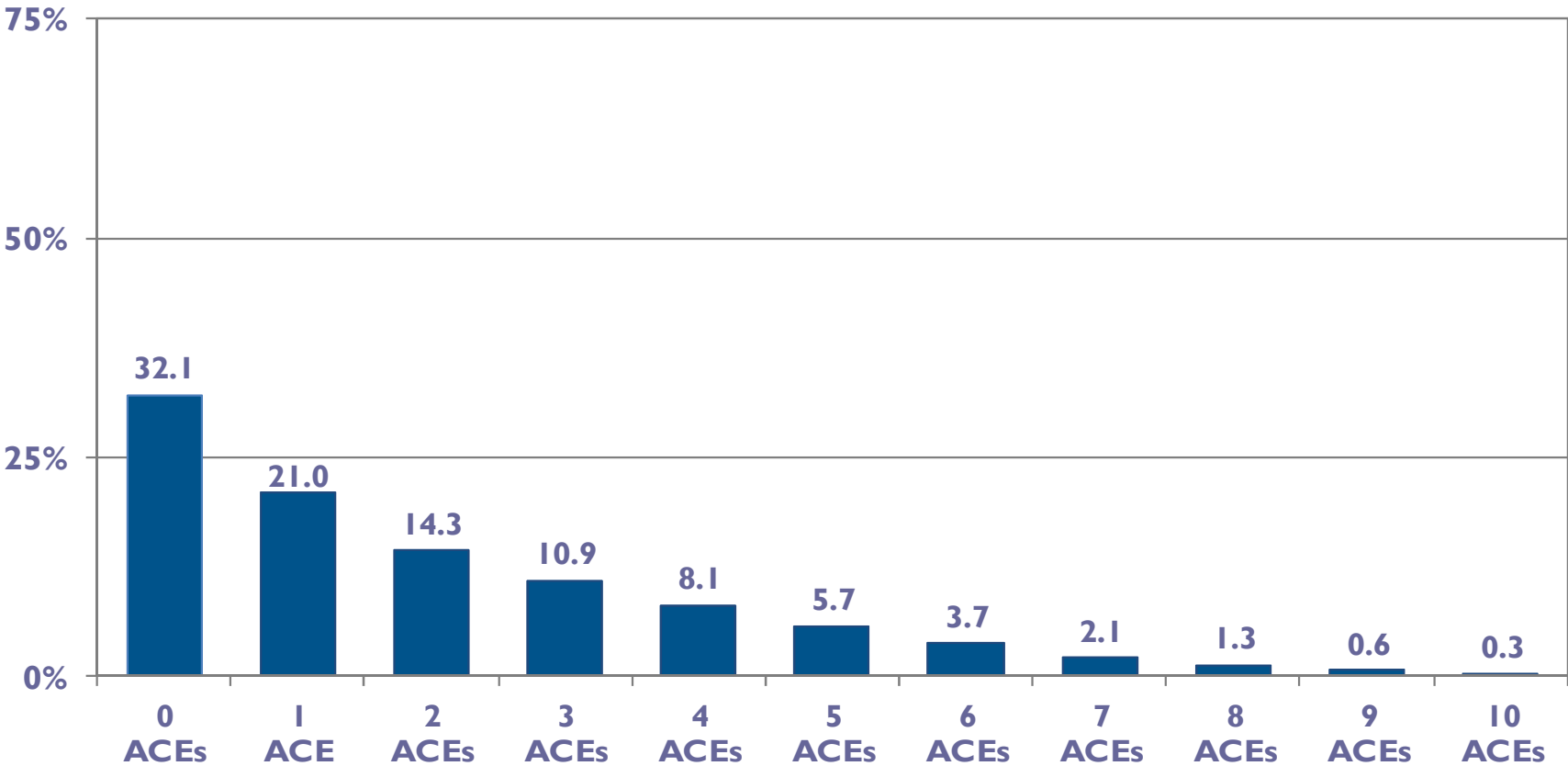
ACEs Among High School Students





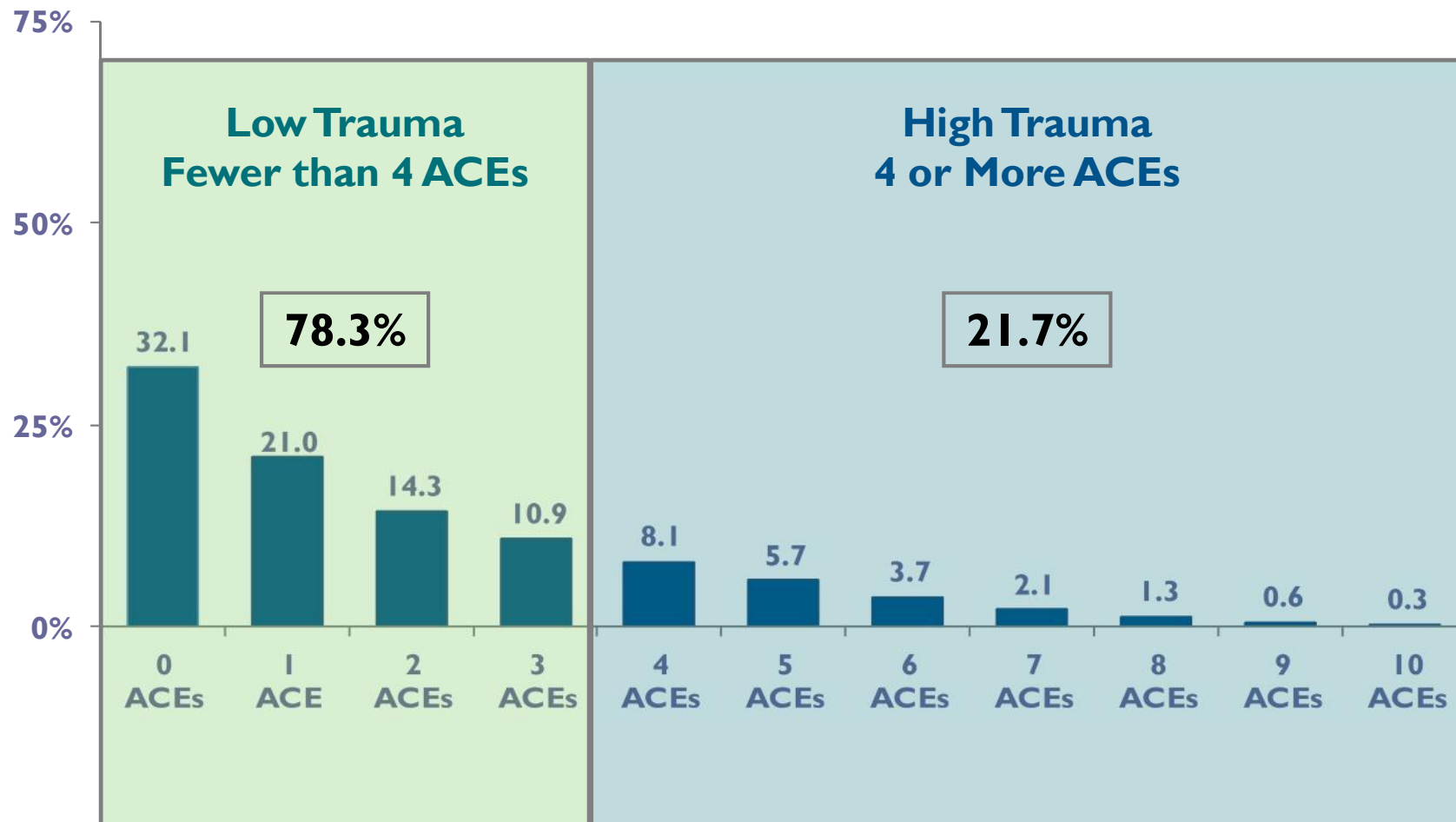
Number of Adverse Childhood Experiences

High School Students



Low Trauma and High Trauma

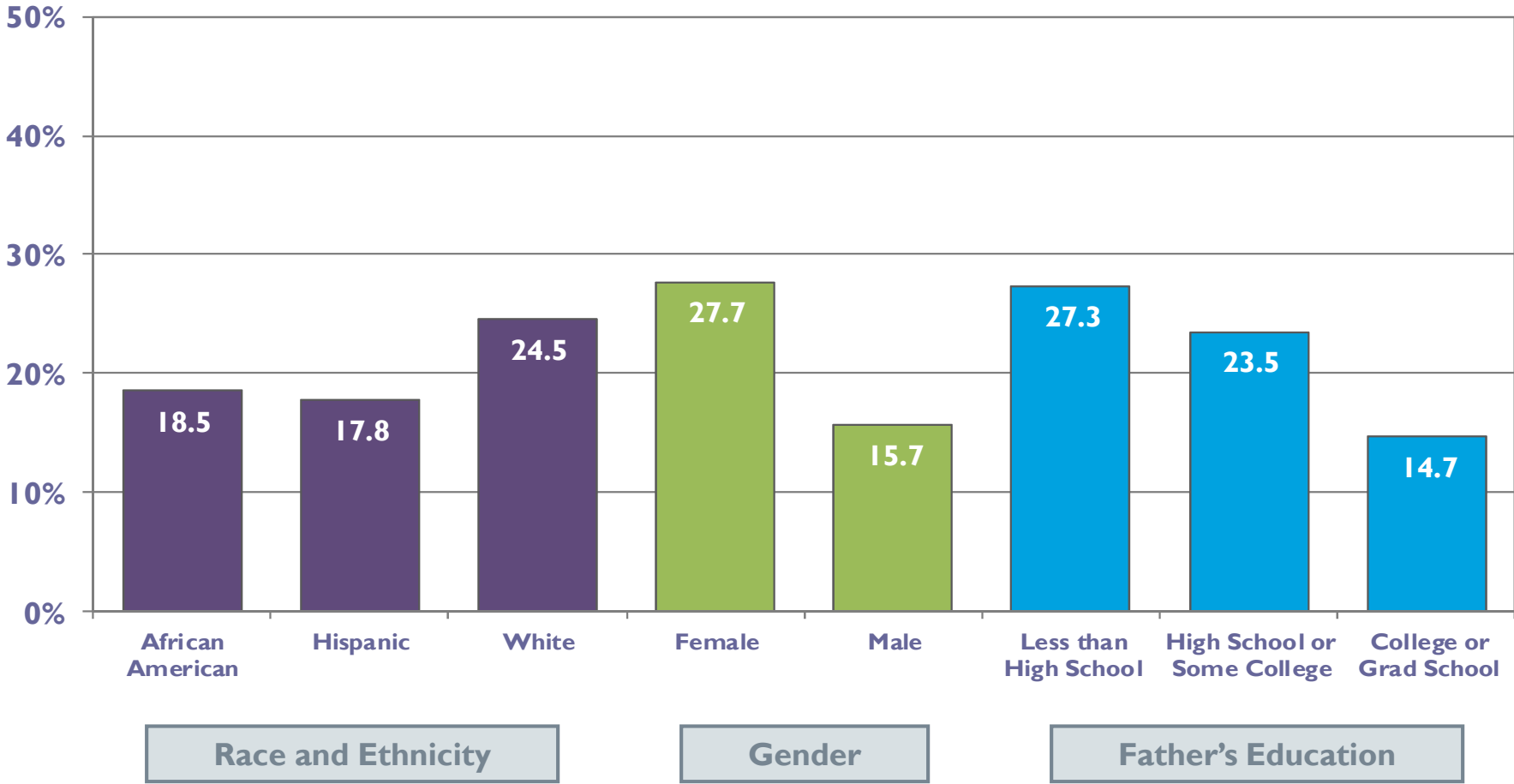
High School Students





Which Students Experience High Trauma?

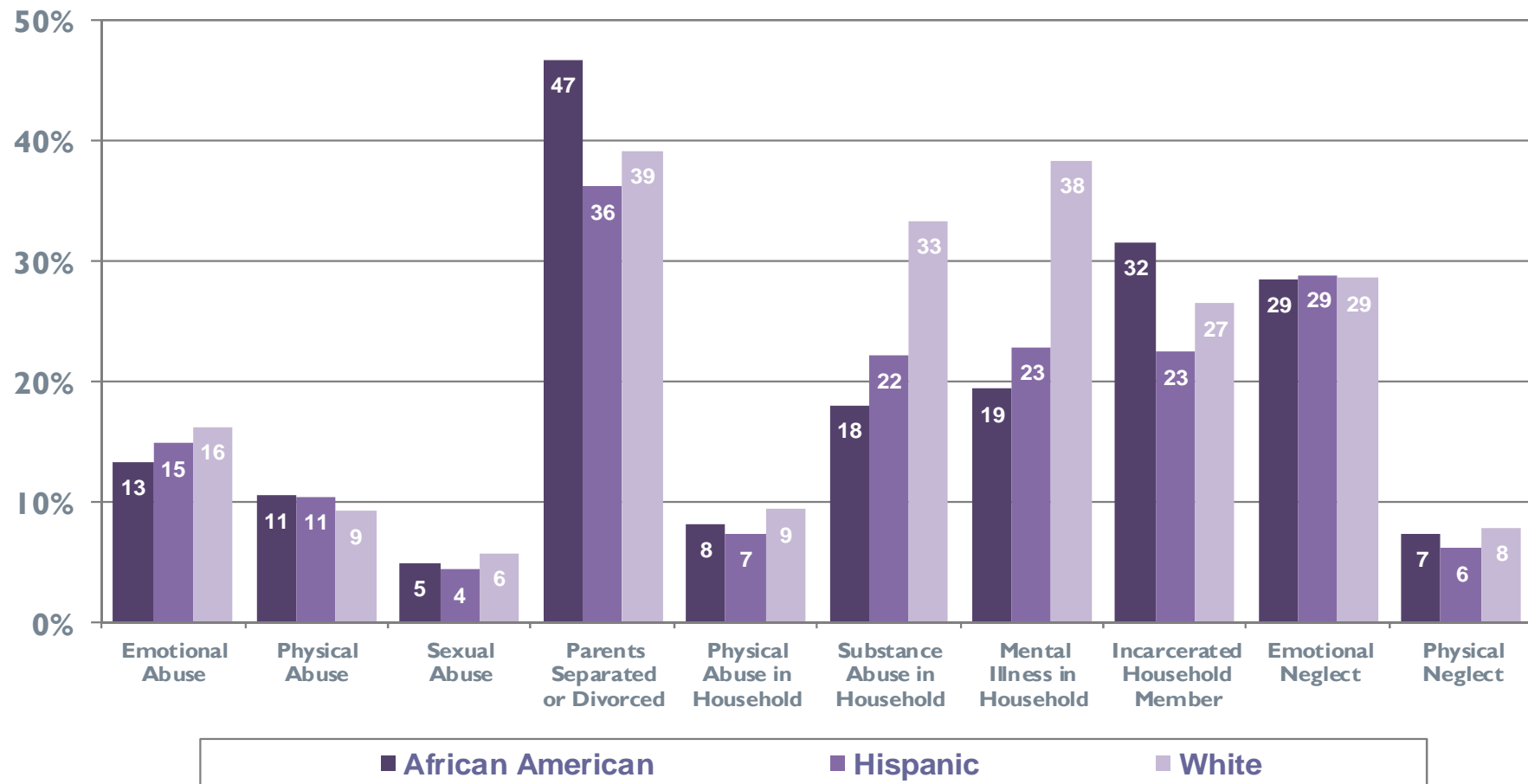
Percentage Reporting 4 or More ACEs





ACES and Race/Ethnicity

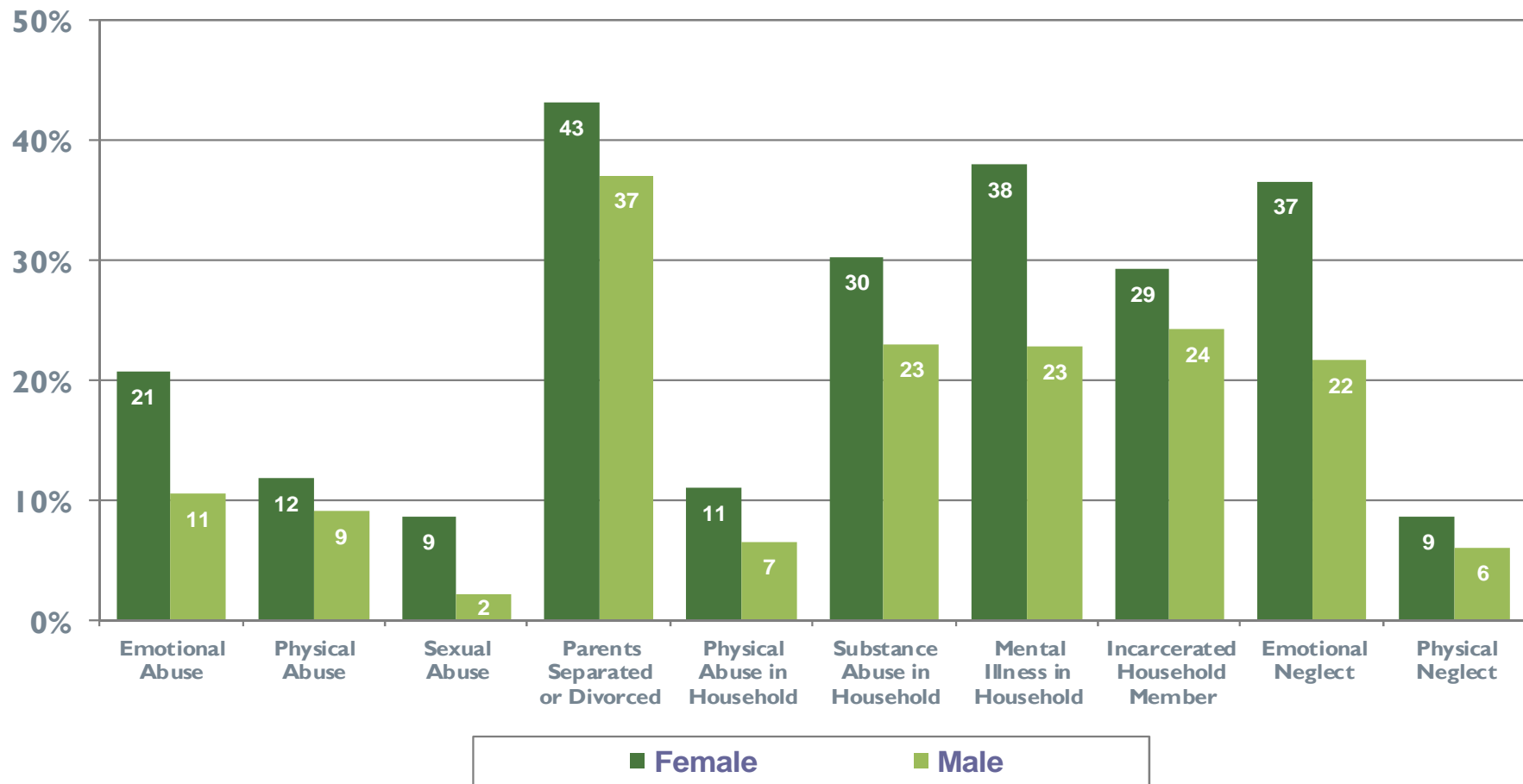
High School Students





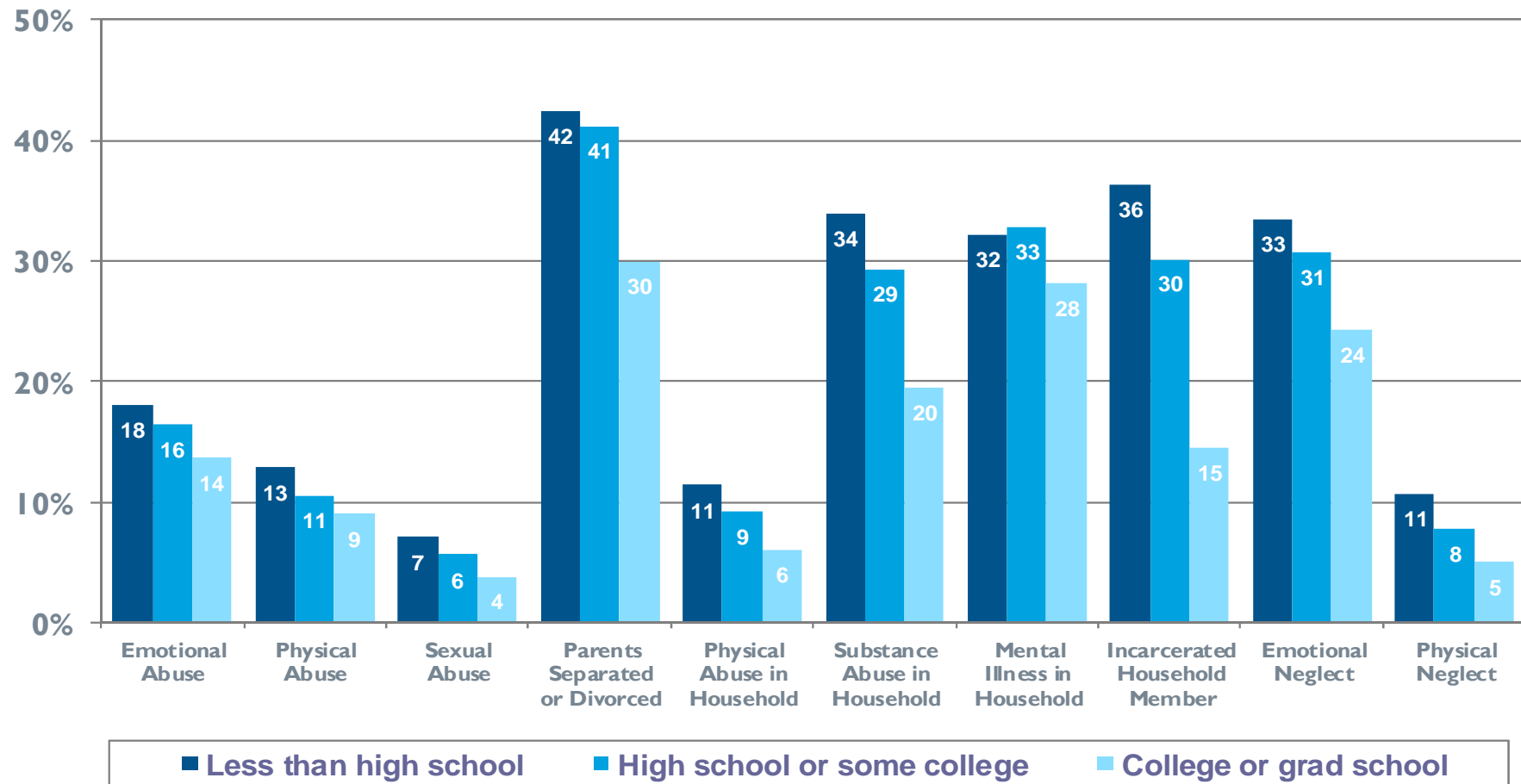
ACES and Gender

High School Students



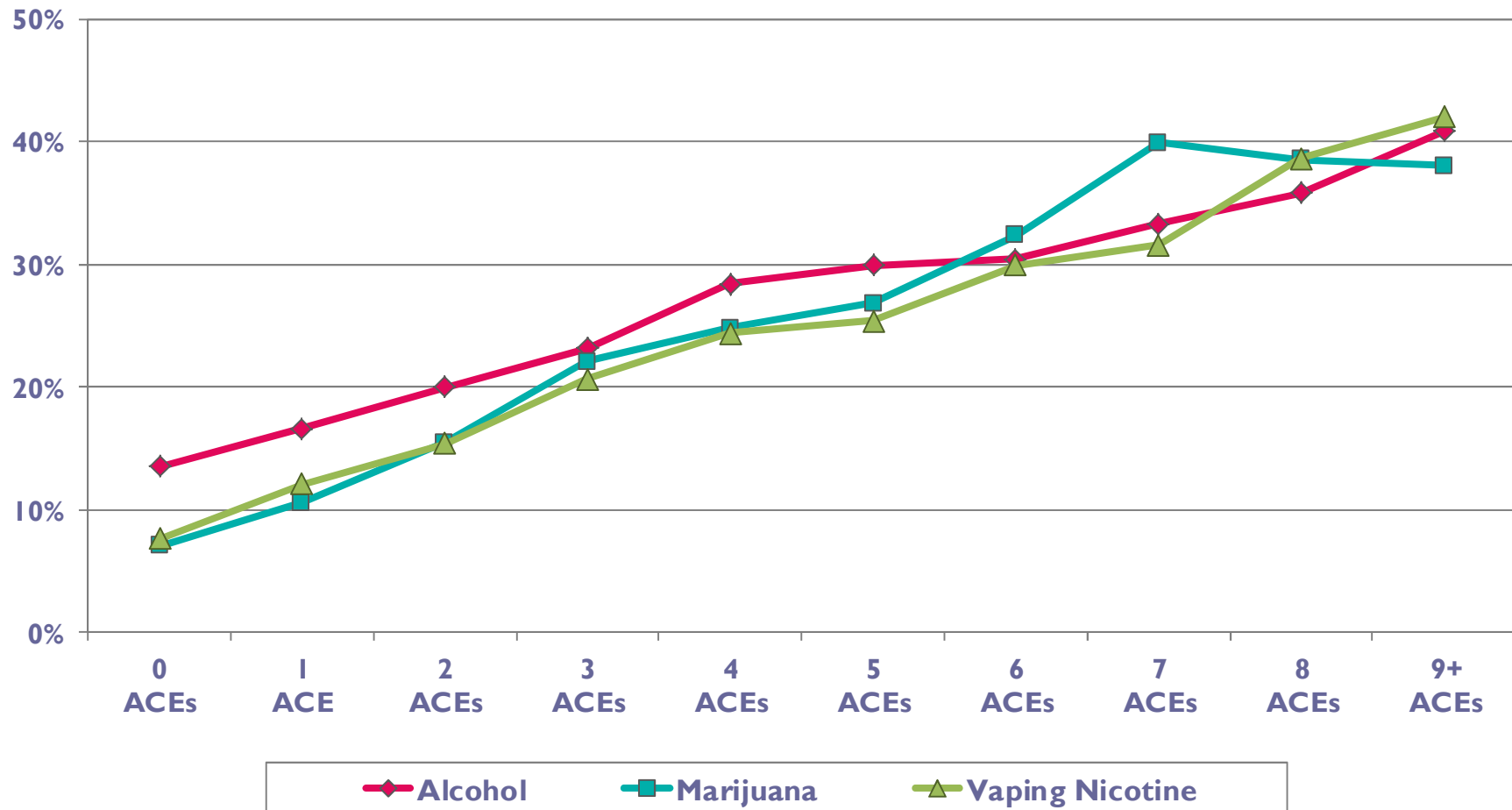
ACES and Socioeconomic Status

High School Students



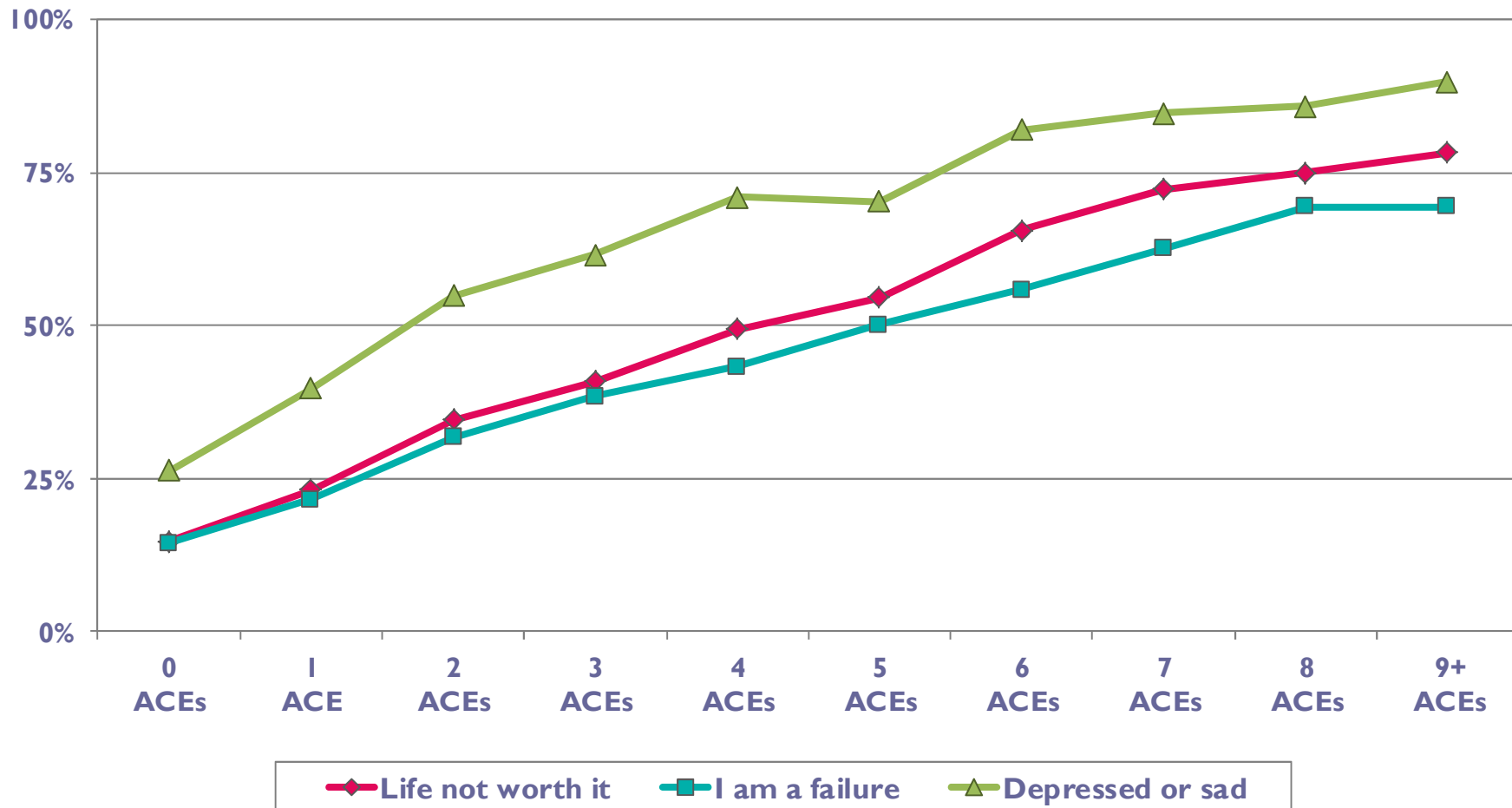
Trauma and Substance Use

Past-30-Day Prevalence by ACE Score

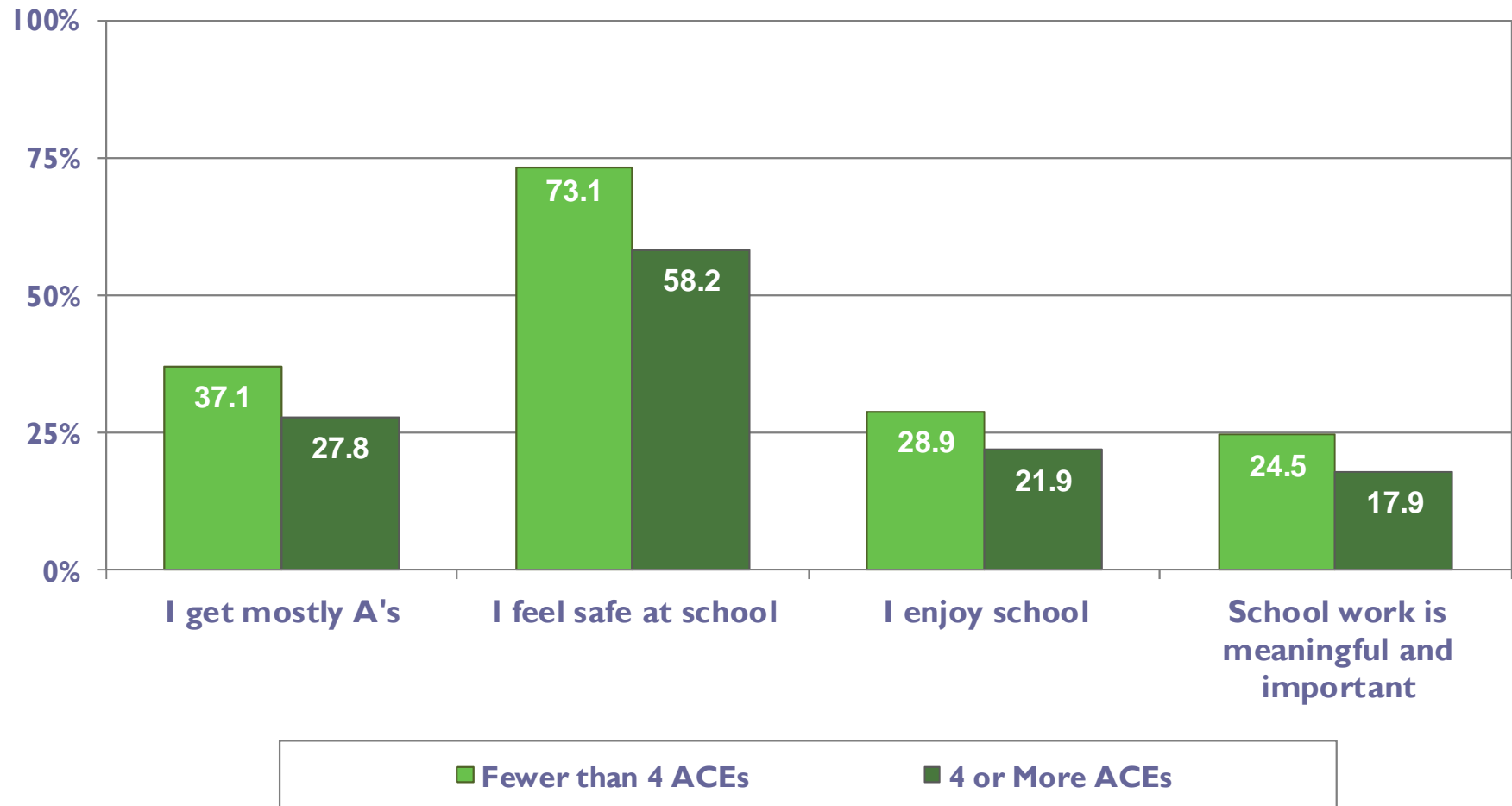


Trauma and Symptoms of Depression

Past-30-Day Prevalence by ACE Score



Trauma and School Success



ACEs Summary

- 21.7% of Florida H.S. students report 4 or more adverse childhood experiences.
- Trauma is not evenly distributed across the population.
 - *White students, female students, and students from low SES families are more likely to report high levels of trauma*
- Among adolescents, there is a strong correlation between trauma and negative health behavior outcomes.
 - *Students with higher levels of childhood trauma are more likely to report substance use and symptoms of depression, and less likely to report success in school*



Thank you!



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