

Metrowest Youth Risk Behavior Survey

Survey Administered November 2012

Date of Presentation: October 7, 2013

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Special Thanks to:

- MetroWest Health Foundation
- The Administration of NPS
- The middle and high school students who participated by taking the survey
- Education Development Center (EDC)

“How do we know students are telling the truth?” (Validity and Reliability)

- Research shows that young people respond truthfully to surveys when:
 - Participation is **voluntary**
 - They perceive the survey is **important**
 - They feel measures have been taken to preserve **privacy** and ensure **anonymity**.

These assurances were built into the common survey protocol.

What do we do post-survey to increase validity and reliability?

- All surveys are visually reviewed for implausible response options.
 - Very small numbers were removed from analysis (less than 2%)
- We perform consistency checks of the data

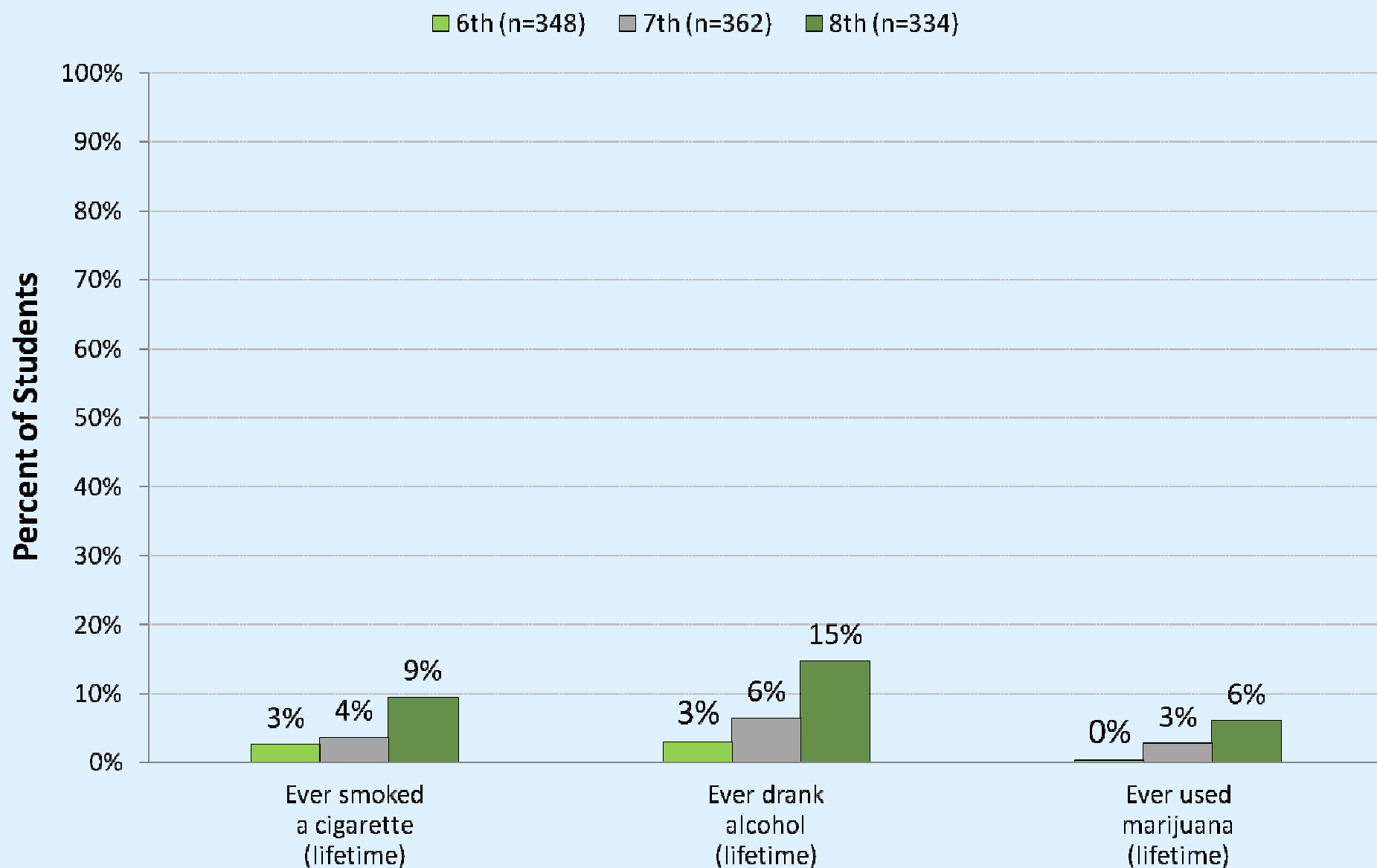
Survey Participants

- This was Natick's fourth time administering the survey (2006, 2008, 2010 and 2012)
- It was conducted in November 2012
- 1044 Students in Grades 6-8 (94%)
- 1180 Students in Grades 9-12 (86%)

Lifetime Substance Use by Grade, 2012

Natick Middle School Students (Grades 6-8)

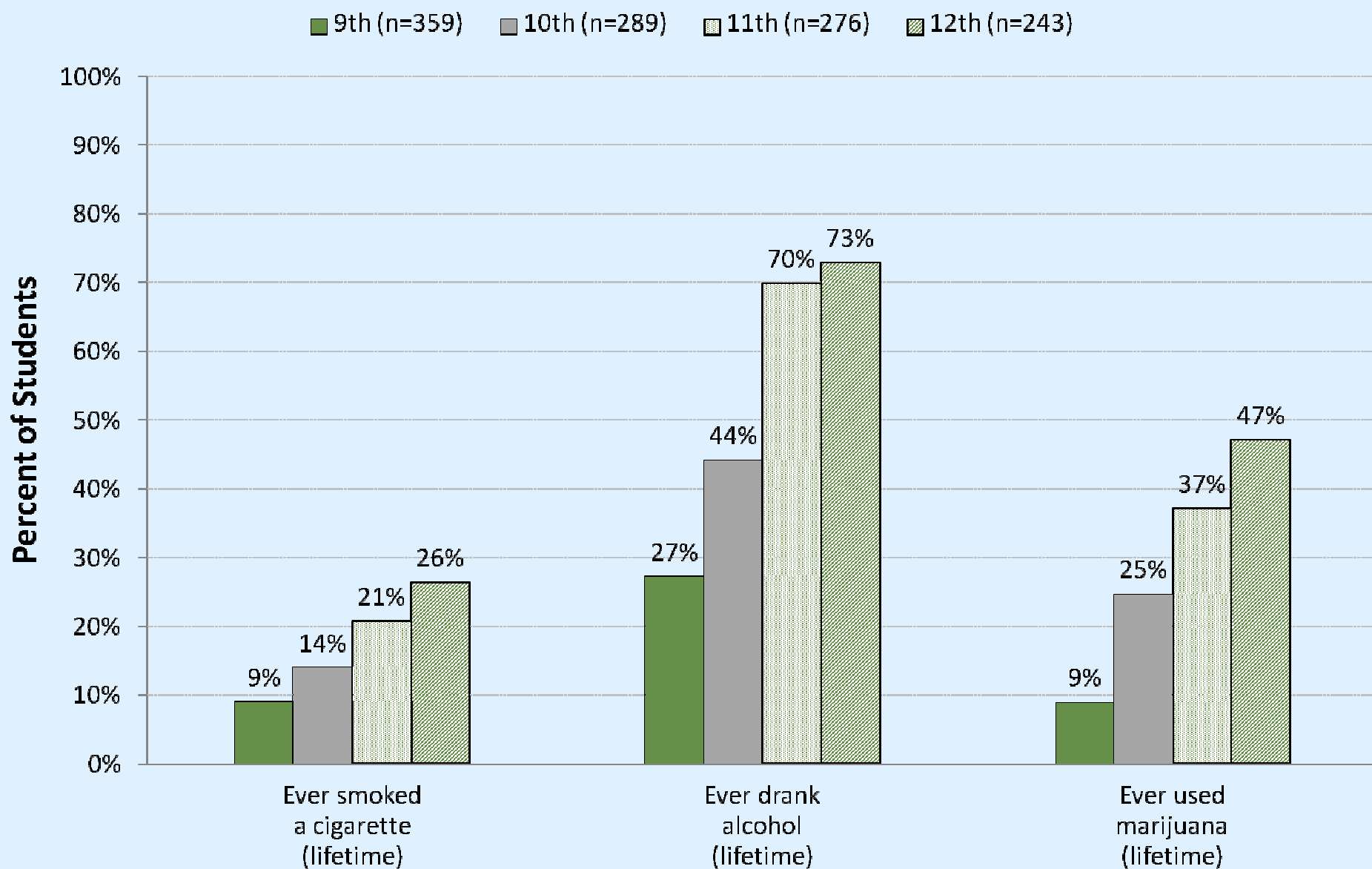
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Lifetime Substance Use by Grade, 2012

Natick High School Students (Grades 9-12)

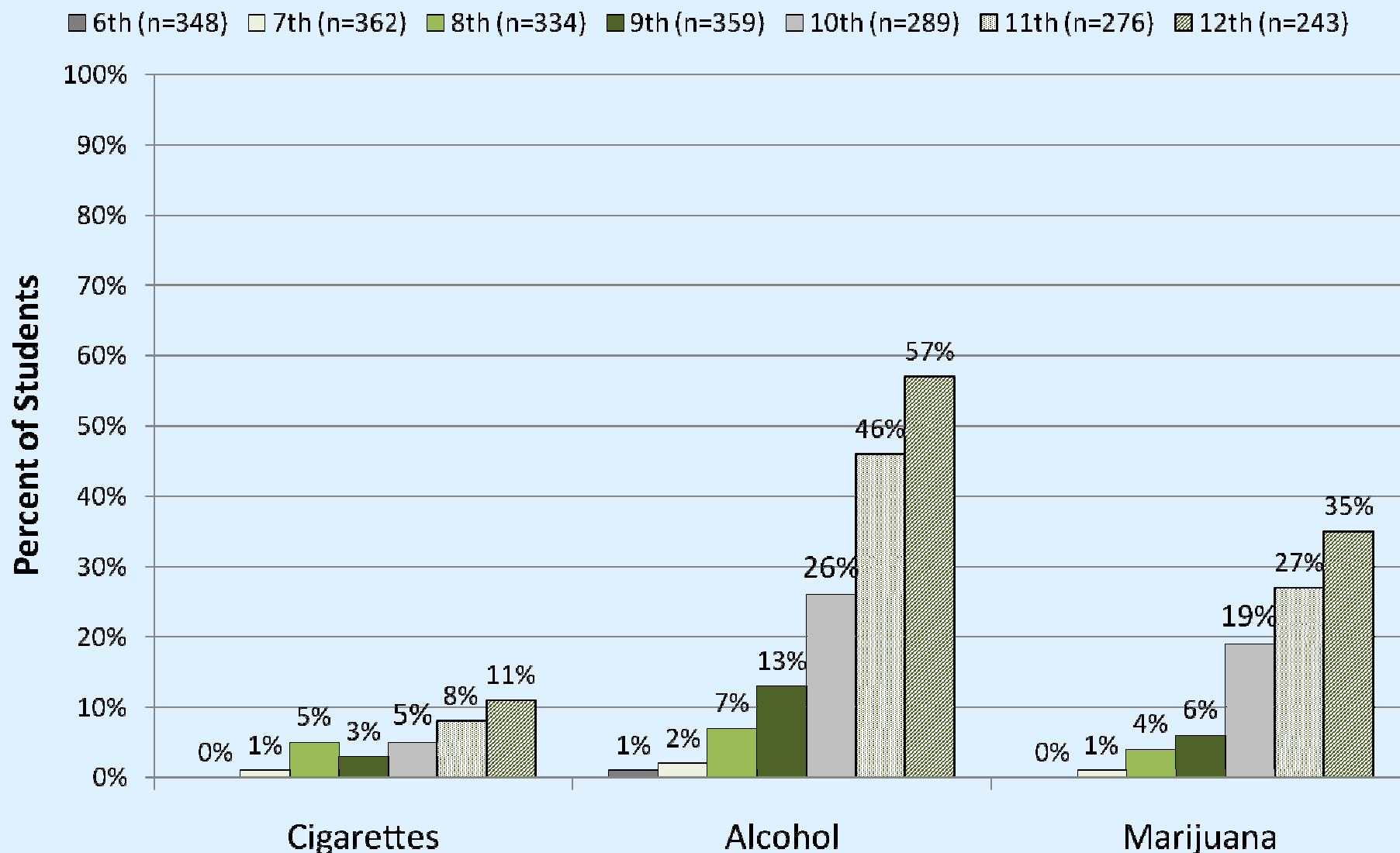
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Current Substance Use (Past 30 Days) by Grade, 2012

Natick Students (Grades 6-12)

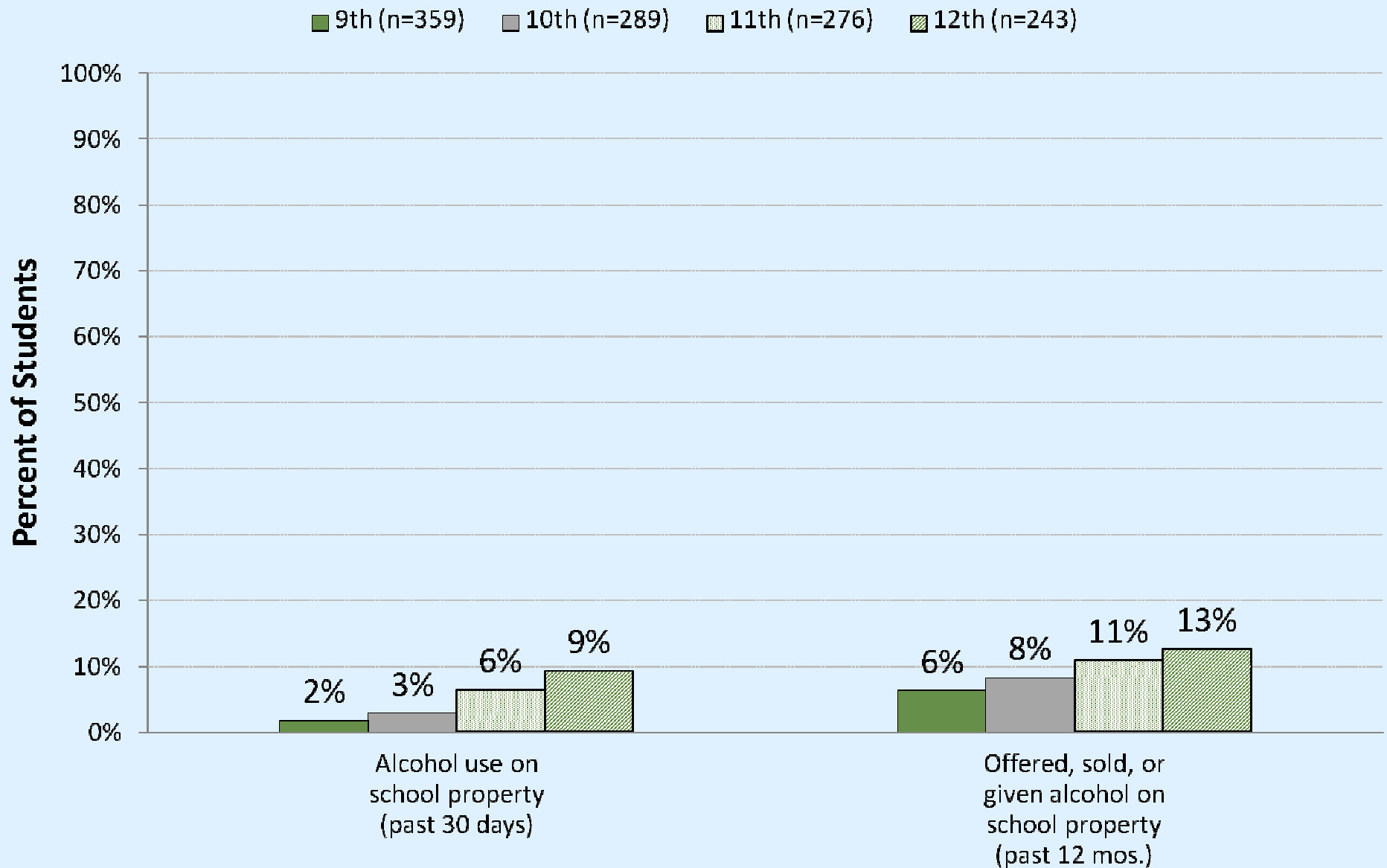
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Alcohol Use on School Property by Grade, 2012

Natick High School Students (Grades 9-12)

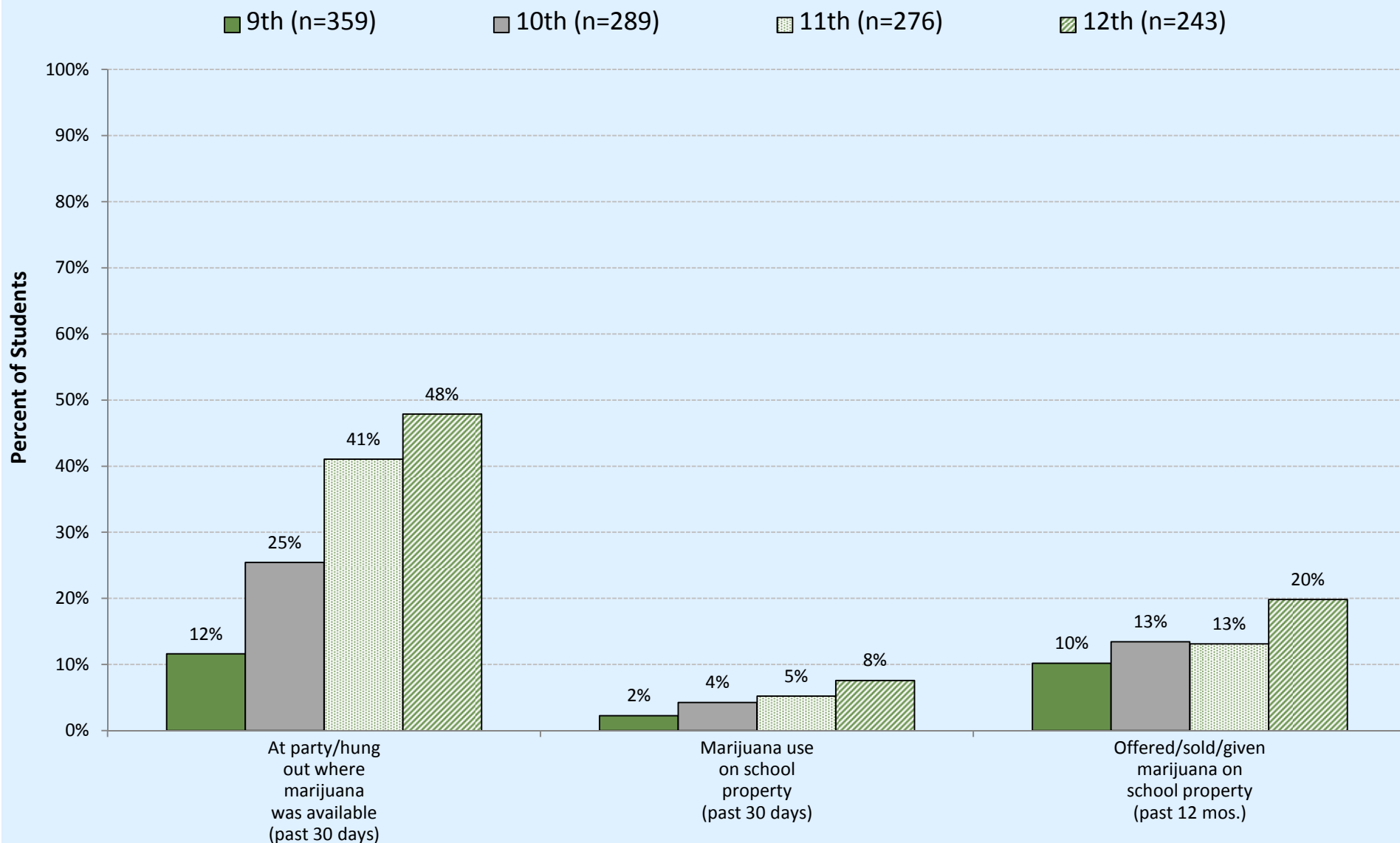
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[Selected Behaviors] by Grade, 2012

Natick High School Students (Grades 9-12)

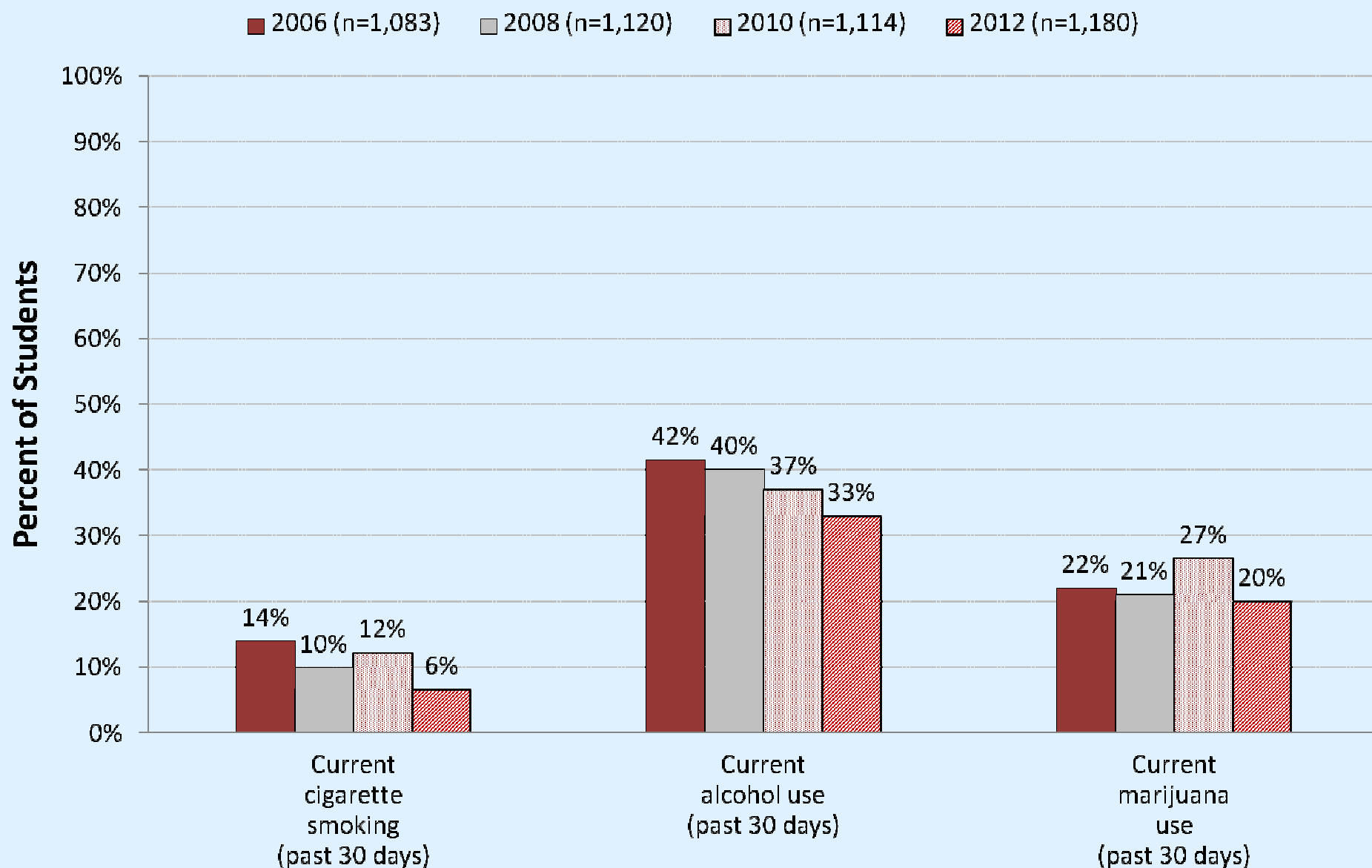
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Trends in Current Substance Use, 2006-2012

Natick High School Students (Grades 9-12)

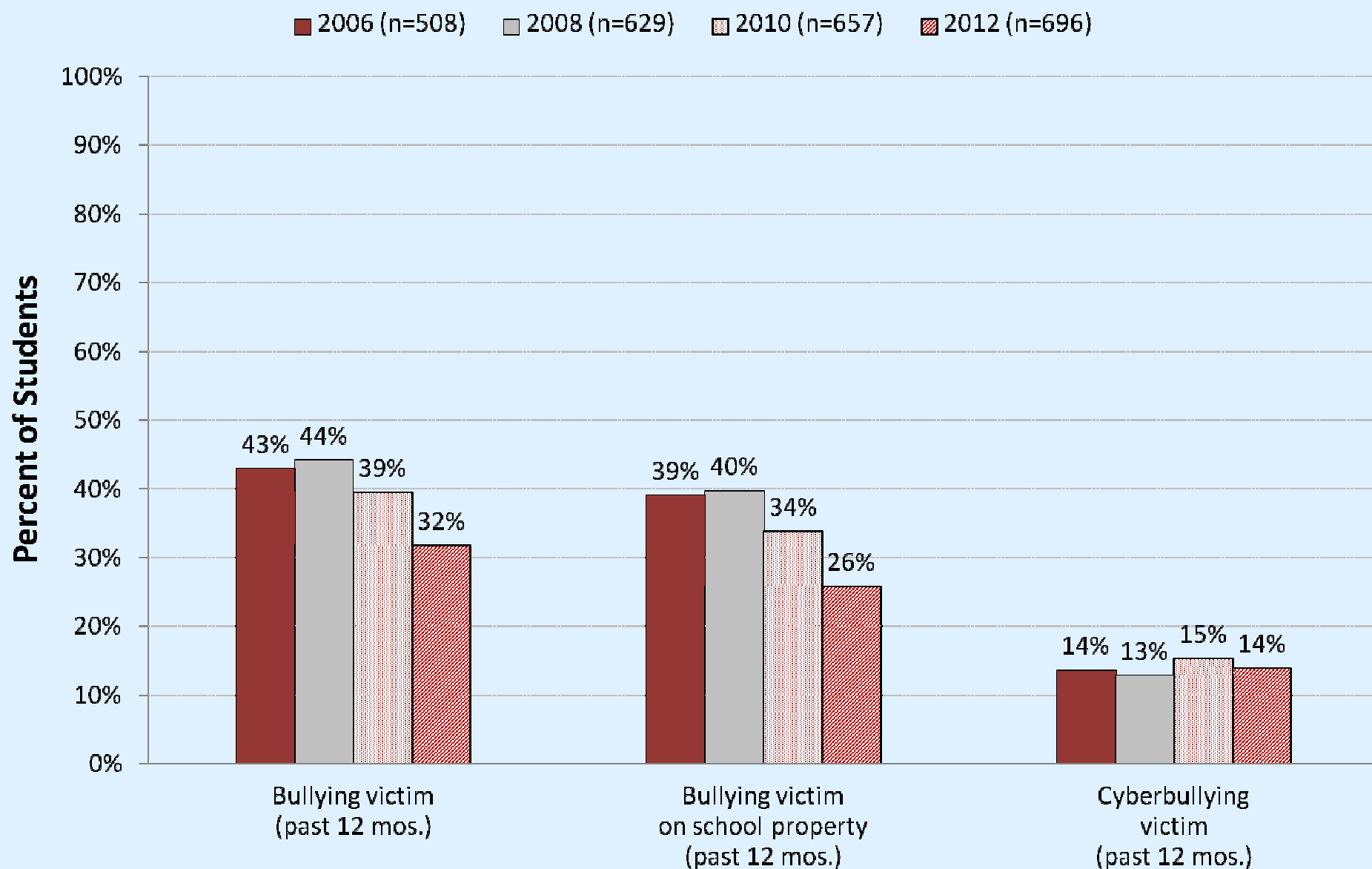
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Trends in Bullying Victimization, 2006-2012

Natick Middle School Students (Grades 7-8)

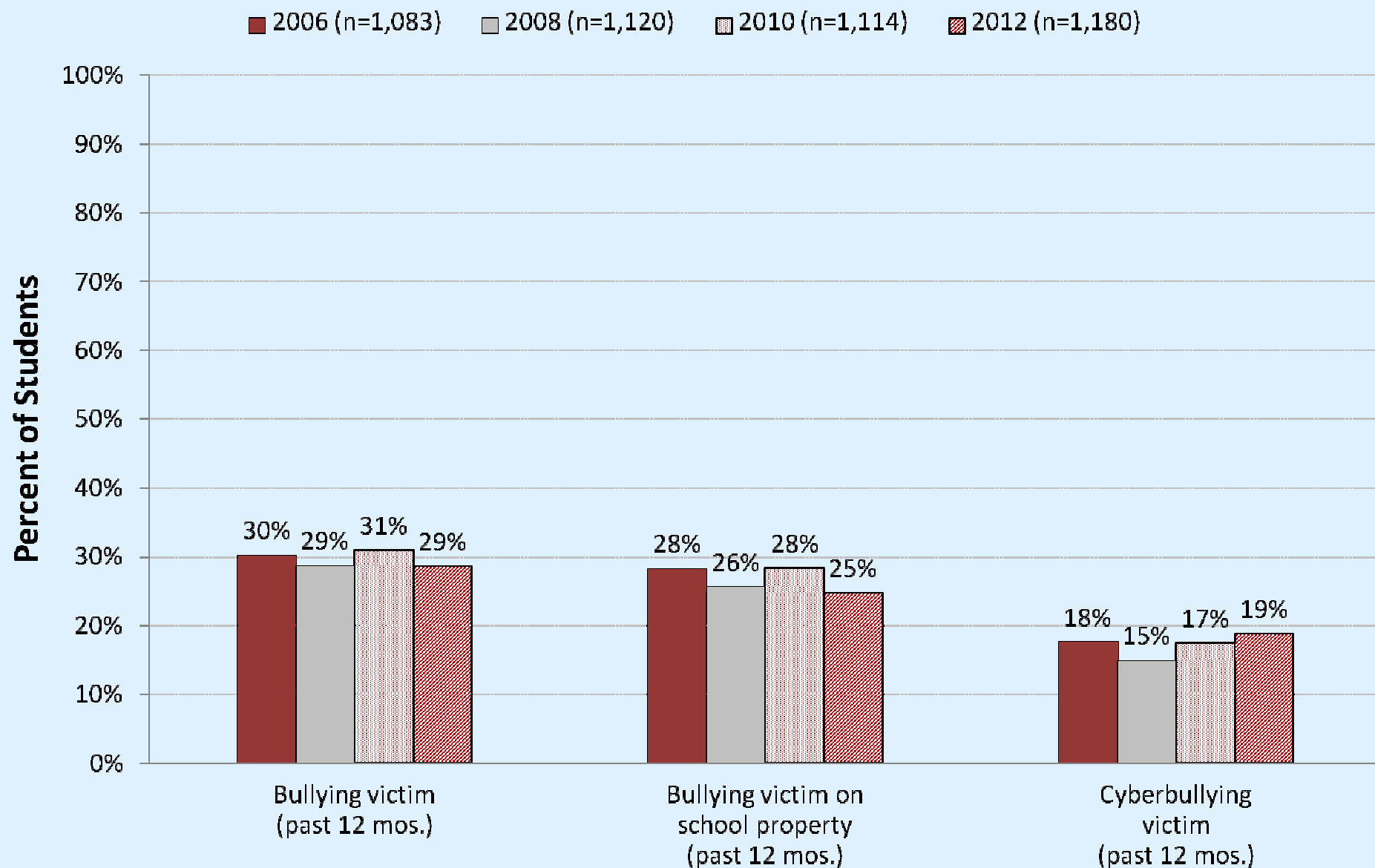
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Trends in Bullying Victimization, 2006-2012

Natick High School Students (Grades 9-12)

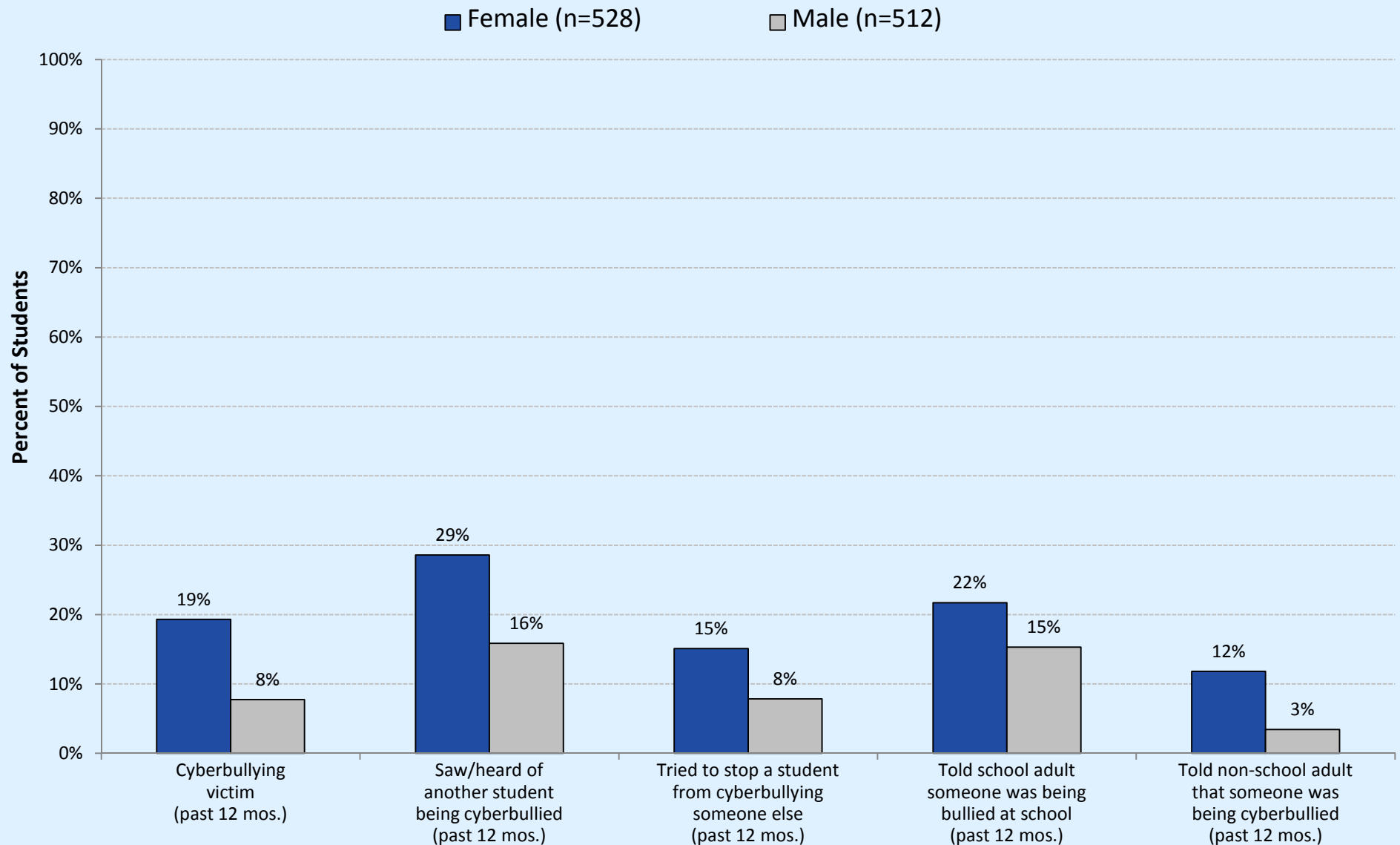
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[Selected Behaviors] by Gender, 2012

Natick Middle School Students (Grades 6-8)

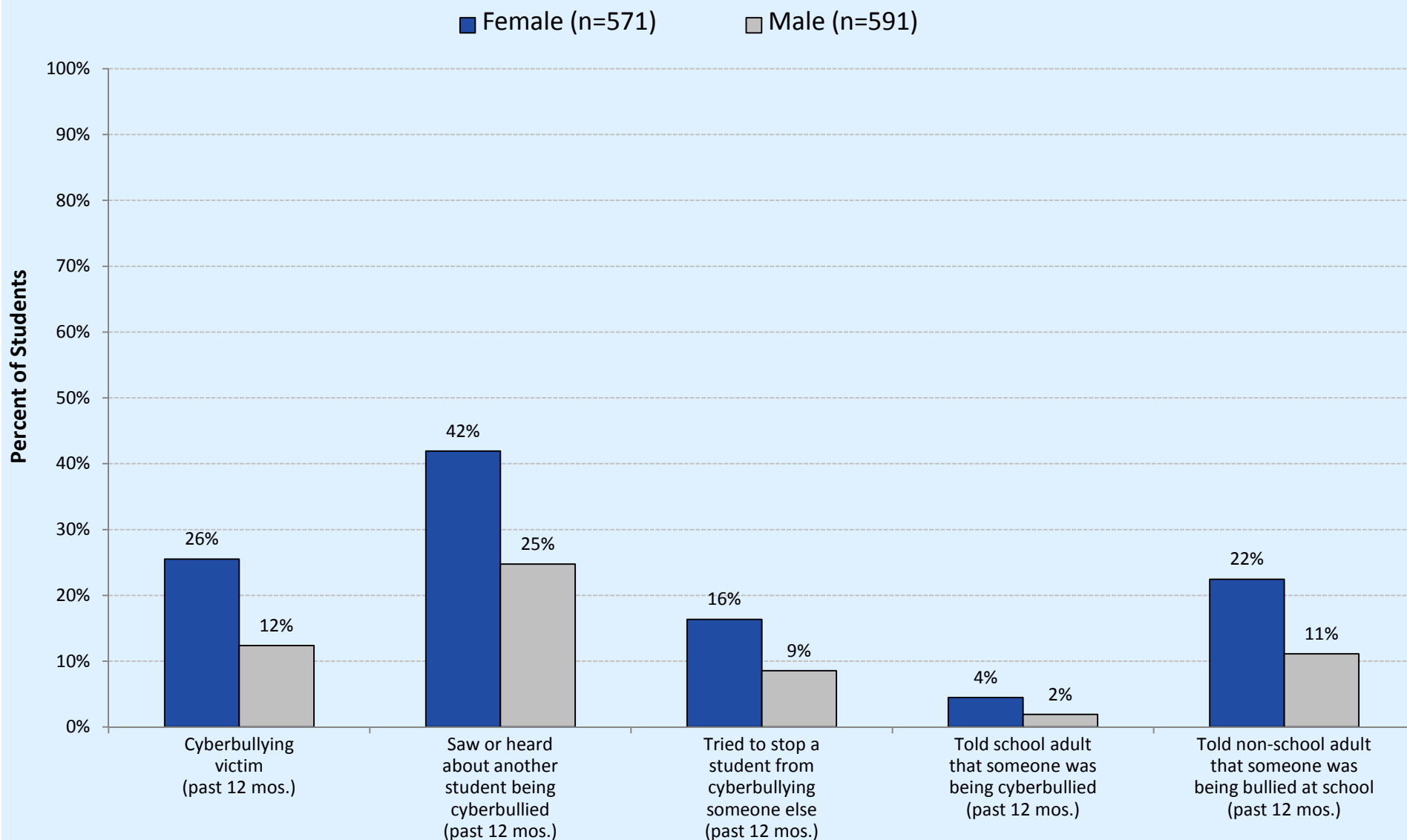
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[Selected Behaviors] by Gender, 2012

Natick High School Students (Grades 9-12)

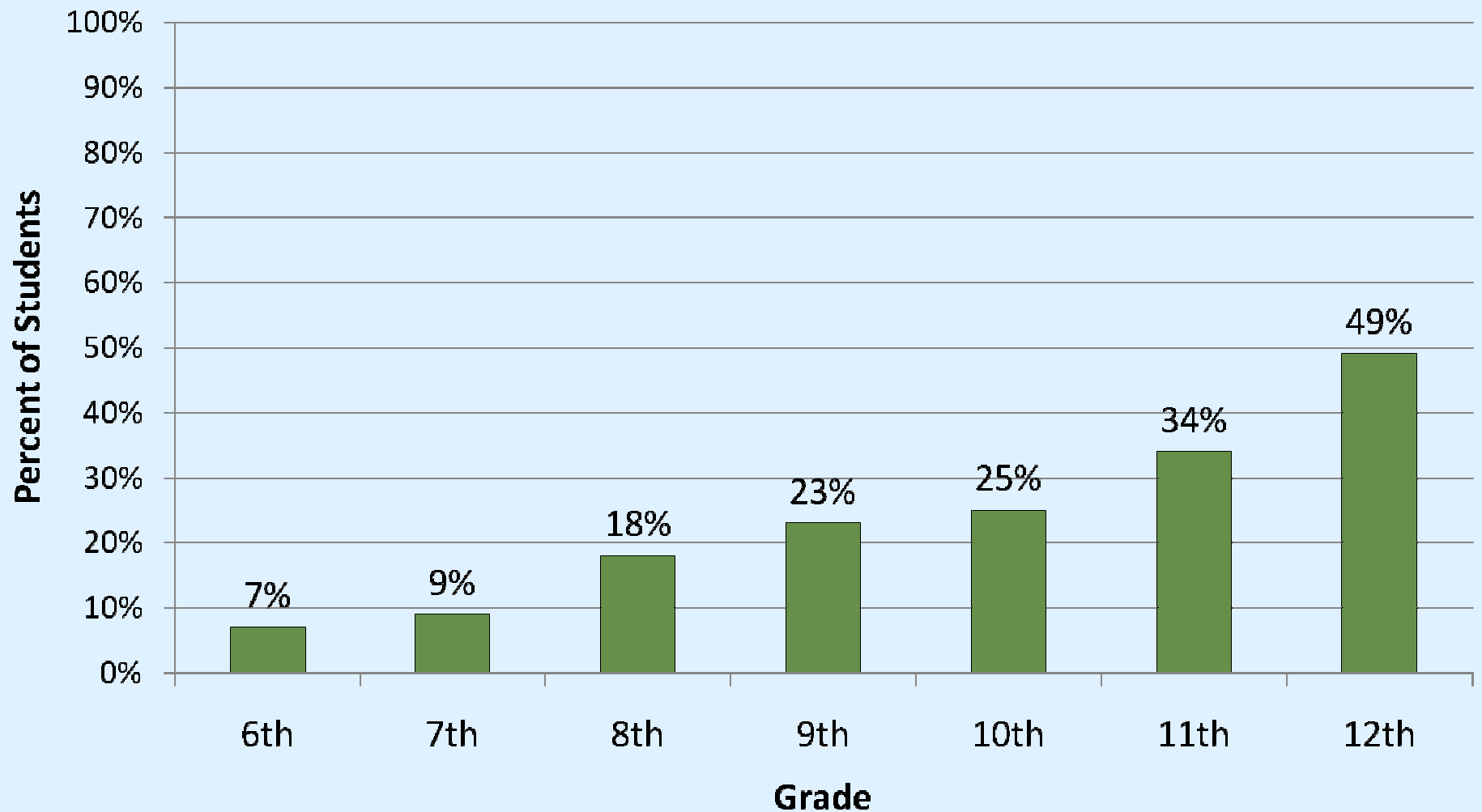
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Mental Health (Life “Very” Stressful in Past 30 Days) by Grade, 2012

Natick Students (Grades 6-12)

MetroWest Adolescent Health Survey



Middle School Summary

We have made advances in:

Decrease in Reports of School Bullying

Substantial Decrease in Reports of Physical
Fighting on School Property

Our areas of concern include:

Cyber bullying

Mental Health Issues

High School Summary

We have seen advances in:

Decrease in Cigarette Smoking

Decrease in Physical Fighting

Areas of Concern:

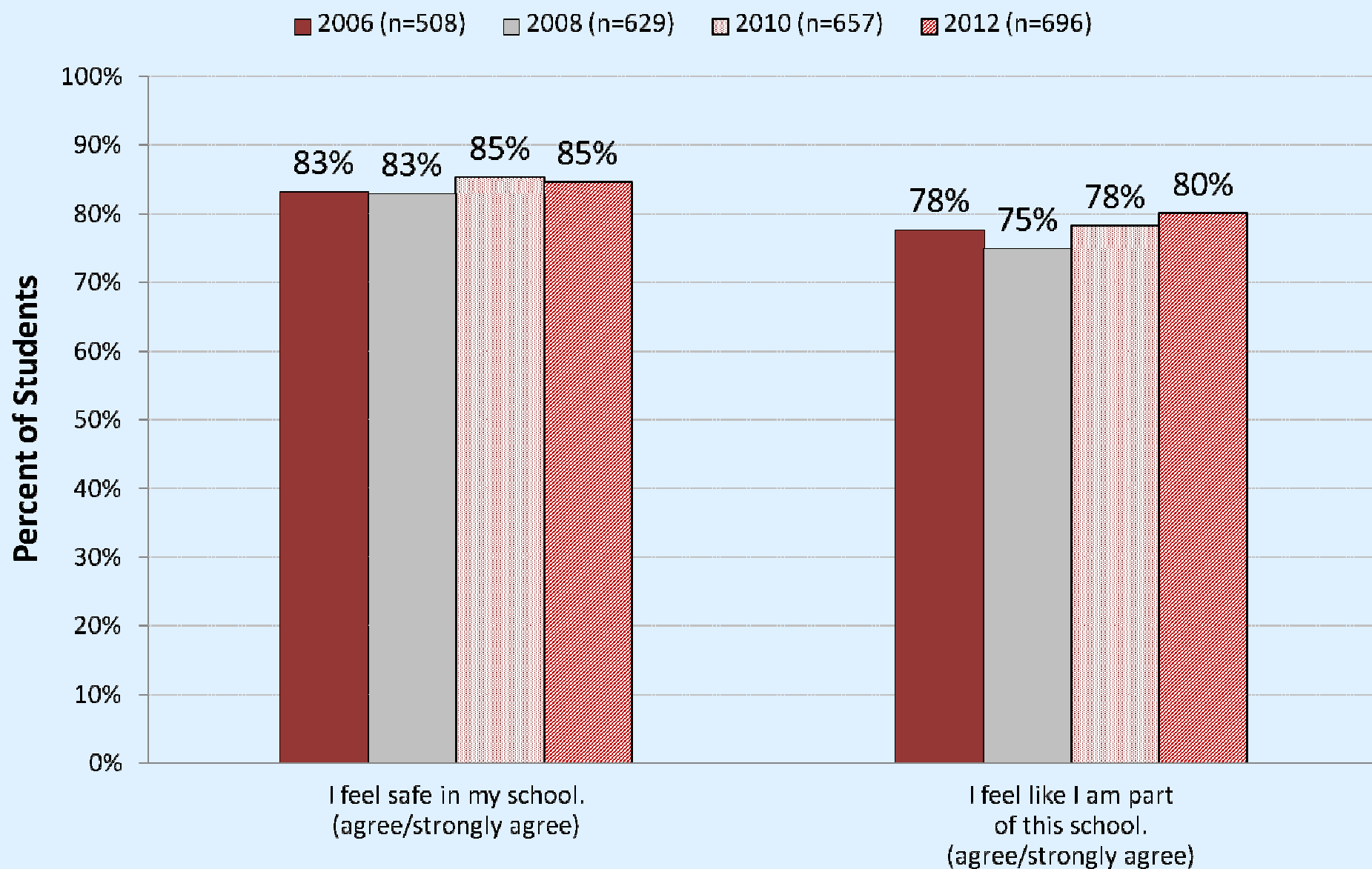
Cyber bullying

Mental Health Issues

Trends in School Connectedness, 2006-2012

Natick Middle School Students (Grades 7-8)

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Trends in School Connectedness, , 2006-2012

Natick High School Students (Grades 9-12)

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