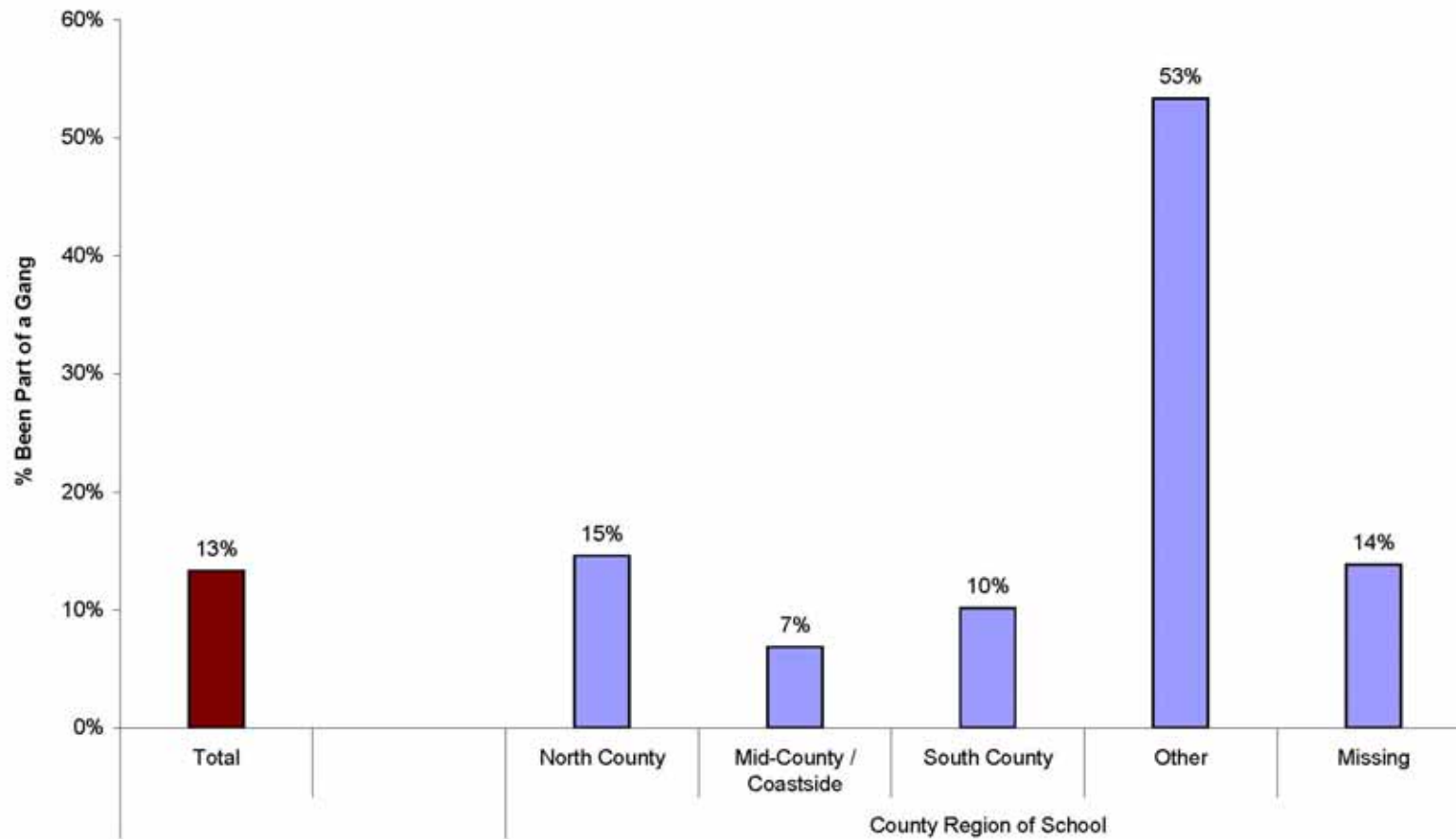

Violence

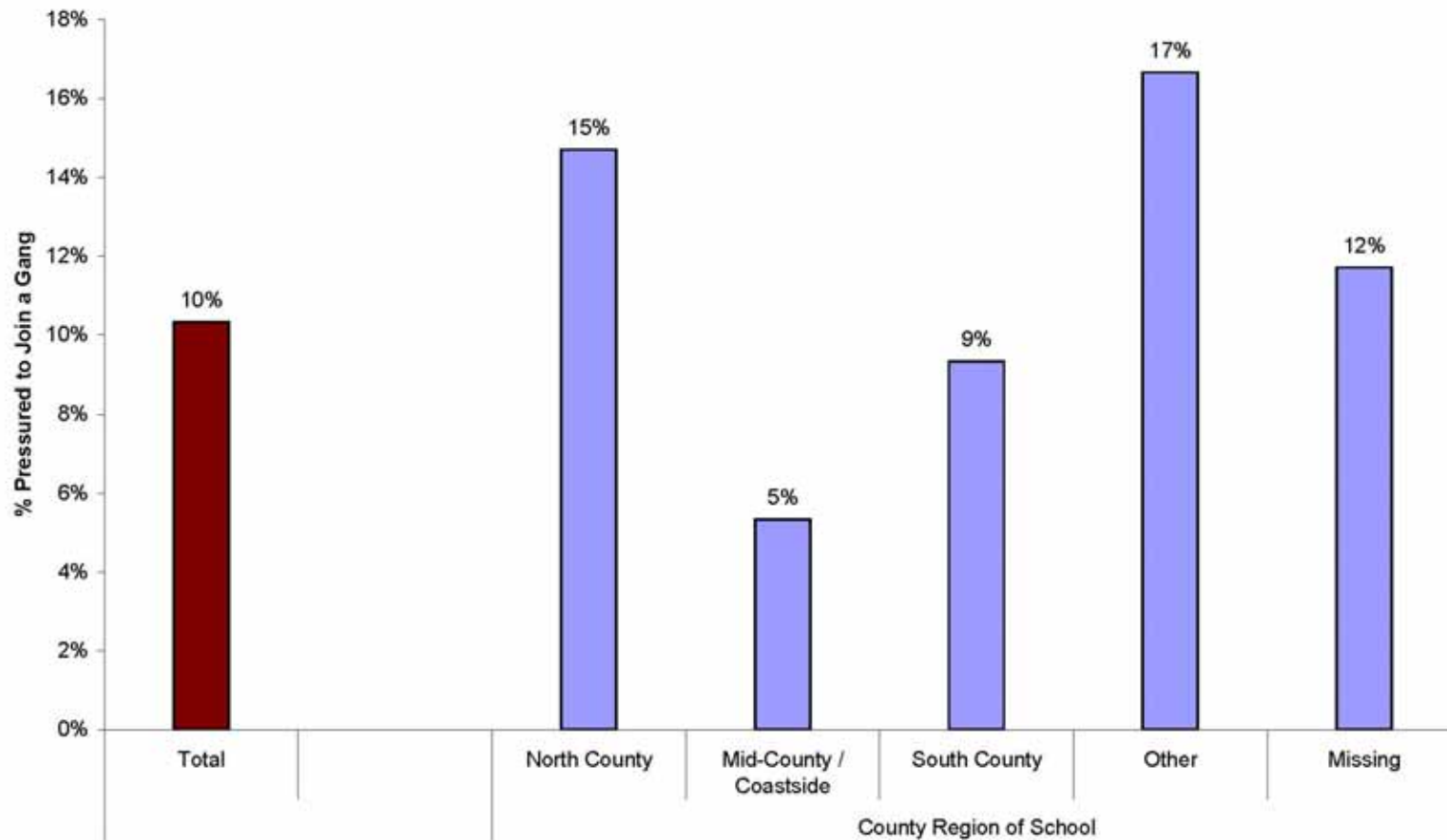
Questions 83 through 108

#93: Have you been part of a gang?
Hypothesis 1: Gang membership differs by where youth live.



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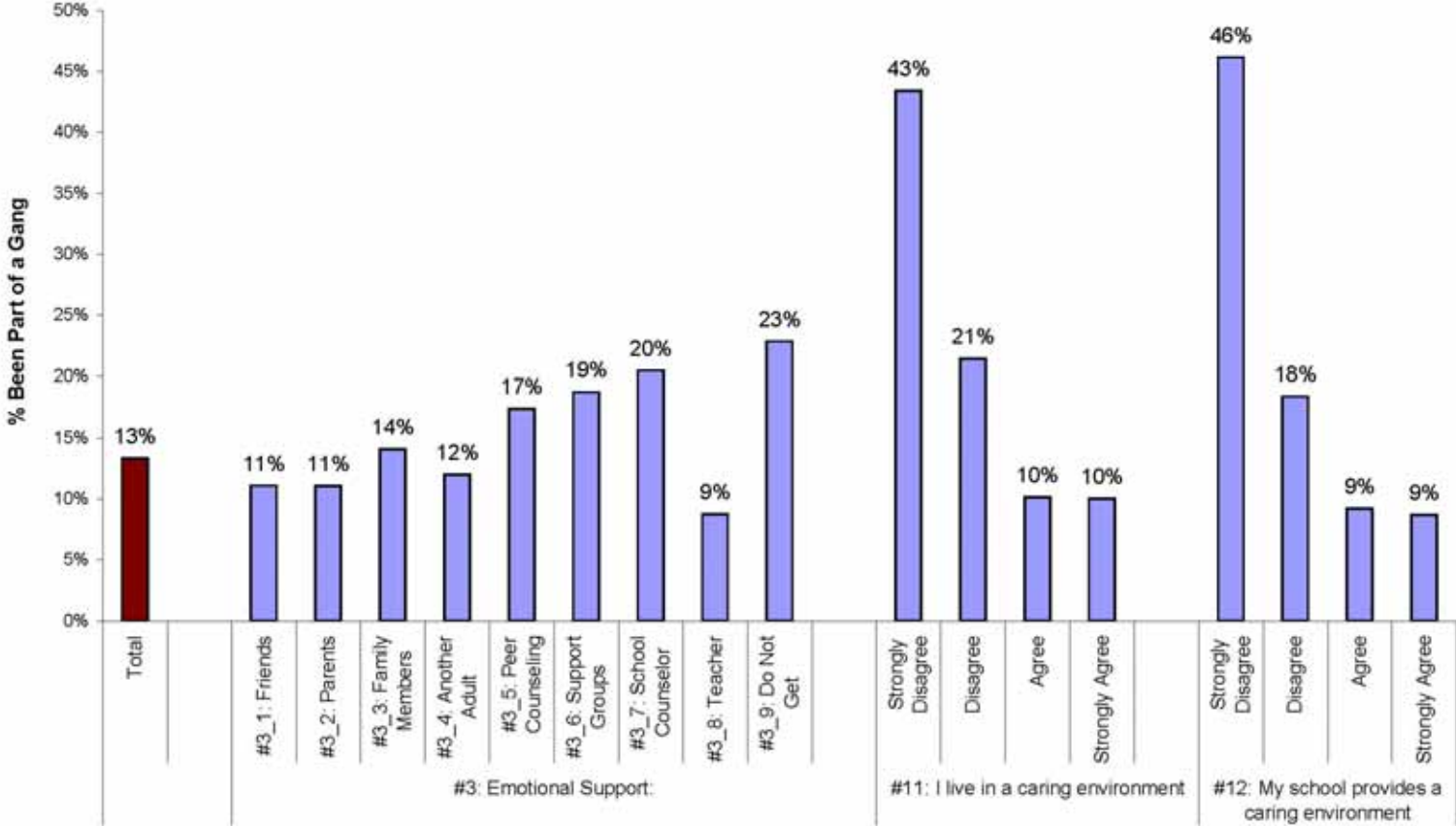
#94: Have you felt pressured to join a gang?
Hypothesis 1: Gang membership differs by where youth live.



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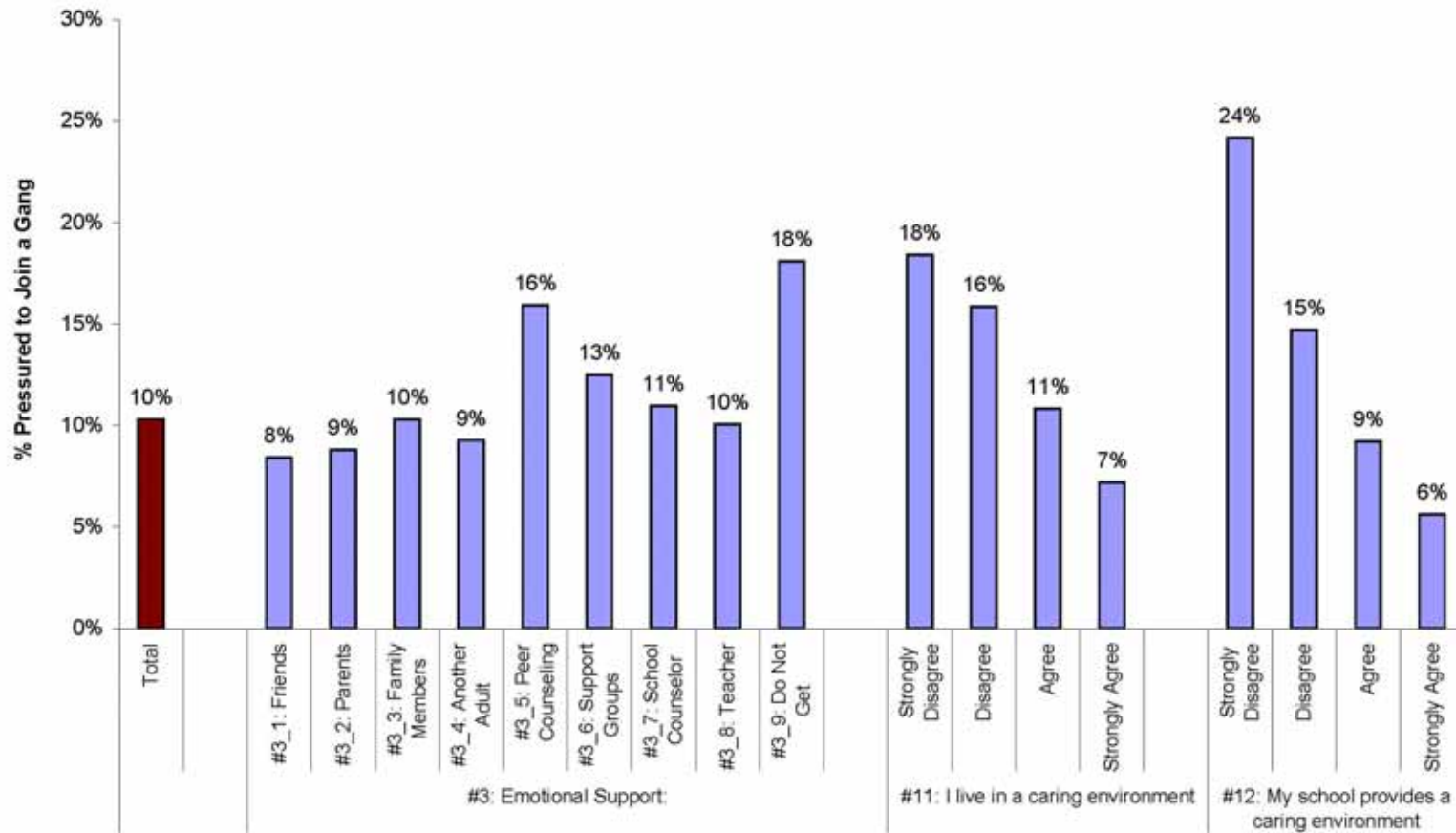
#93: Have you been part of a gang?

Hypothesis 2: Youth who do not get emotional support are more likely to join gangs than those with emotional support.



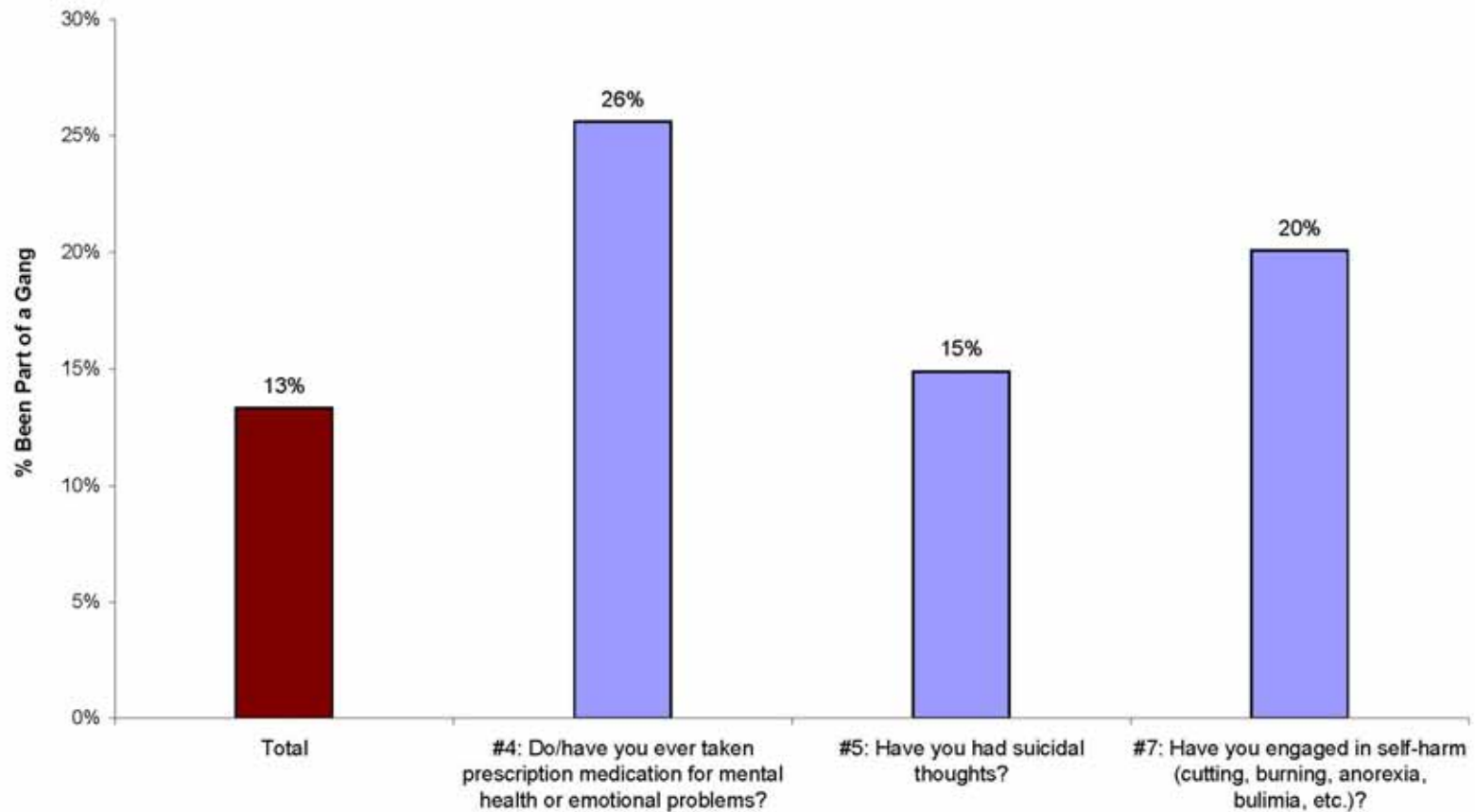
#94: Have you felt pressured to join a gang?

Hypothesis 2: Youth who do not get emotional support are more likely to join gangs than those with emotional support.



#93: Have you been part of a gang?

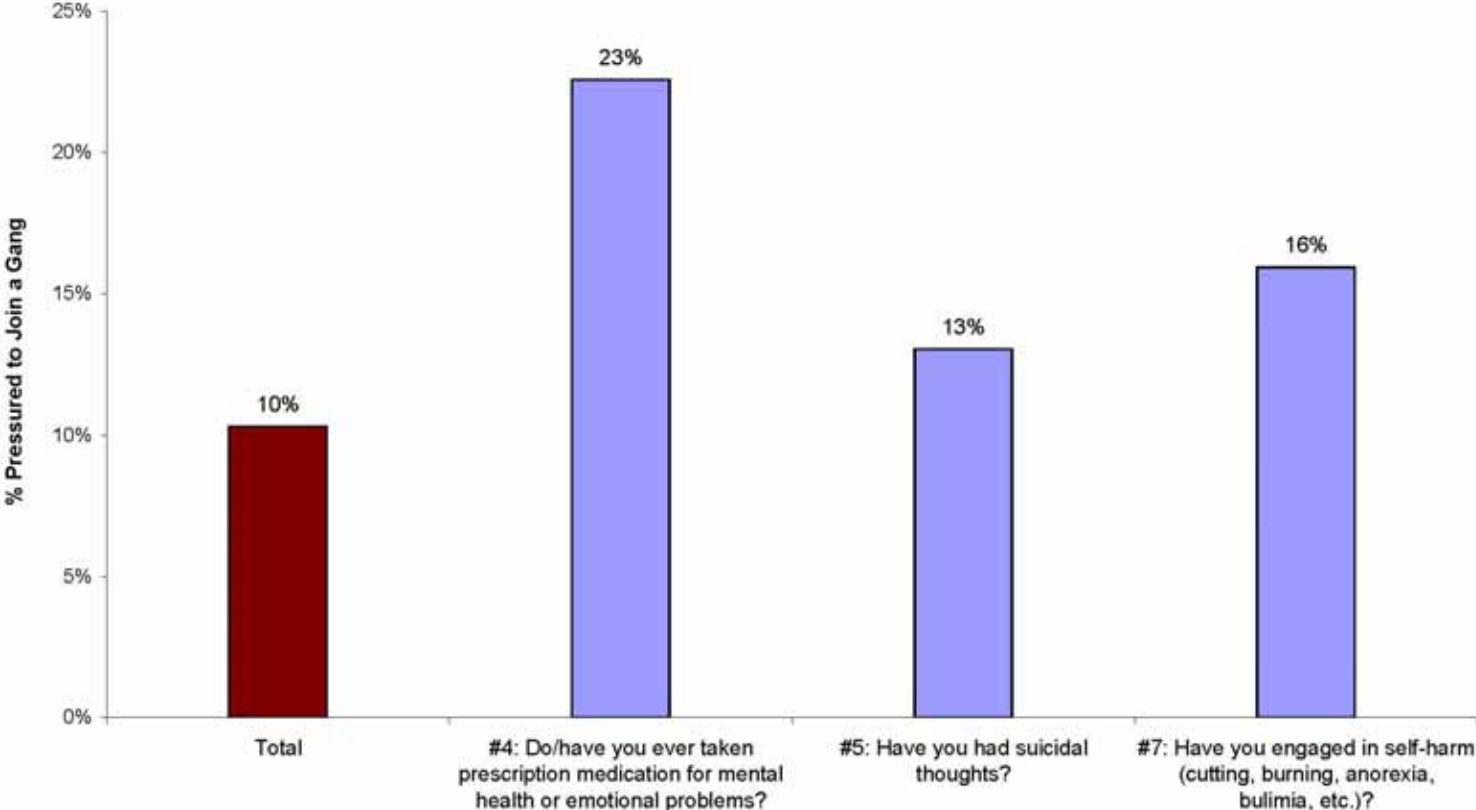
Hypothesis 3: Youth who have mental health problems (i.e., those who have thought about and/or attempted suicide or self harm) are more likely to be in a gang than those without these problems.



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#94: Have you felt pressured to join a gang?

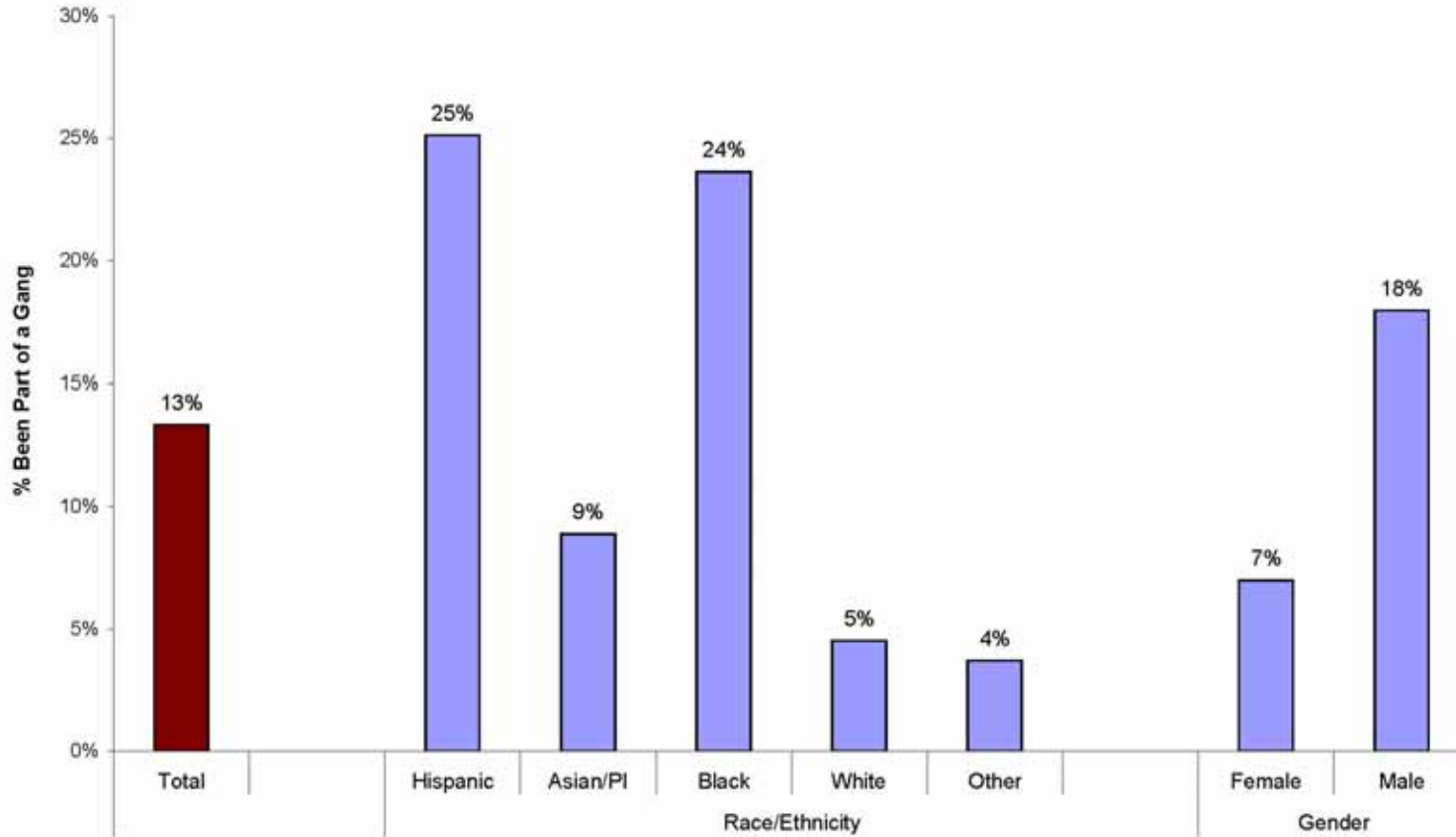
Hypothesis 3: Youth who have mental health problems (i.e., those who have thought about and/or attempted suicide or self harm) are more likely to be in a gang than those without these problems.



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#93: Have you been part of a gang?

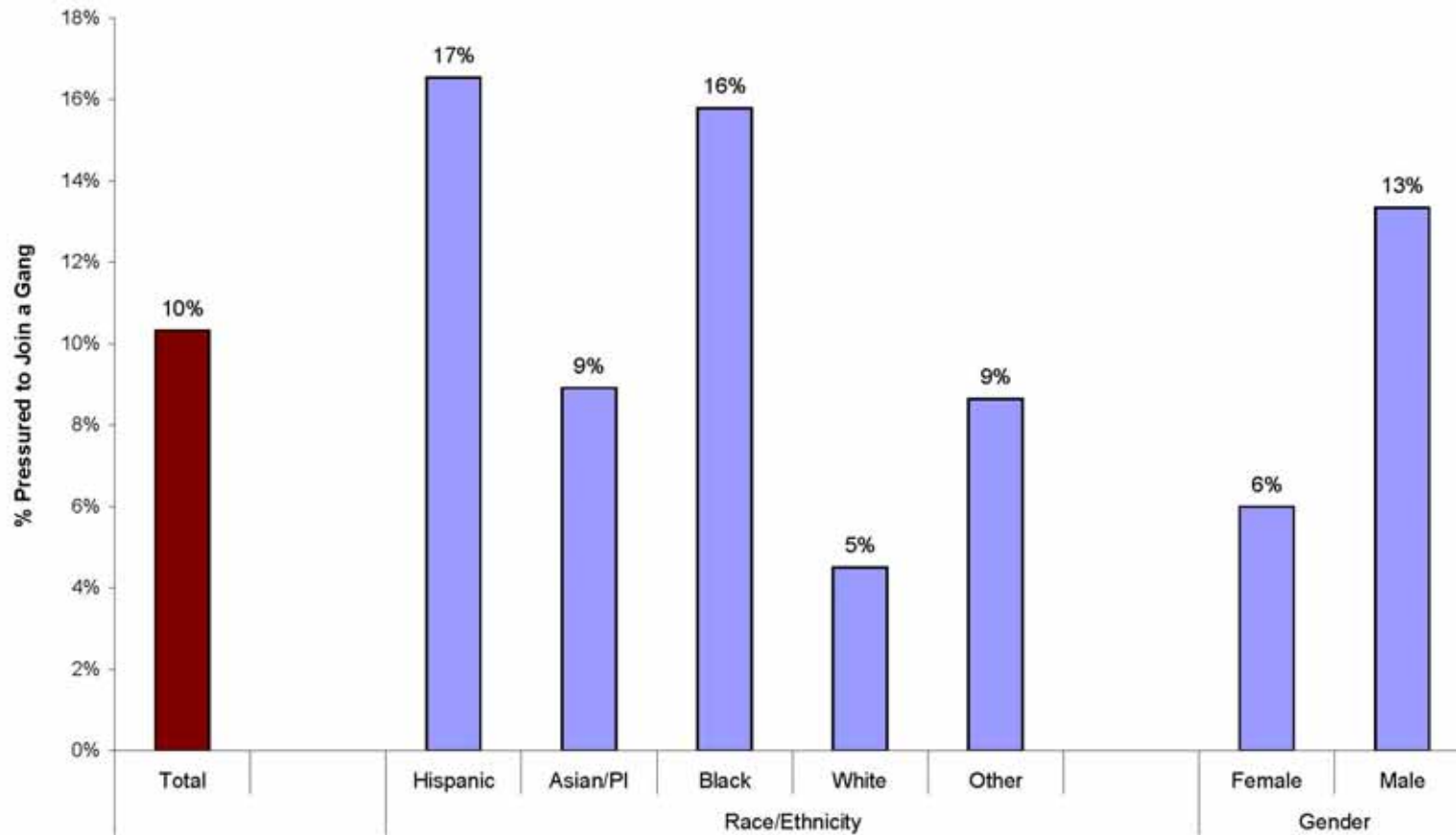
Hypothesis 4: Boys and nonwhites are more likely to be gang members than whites and girls.



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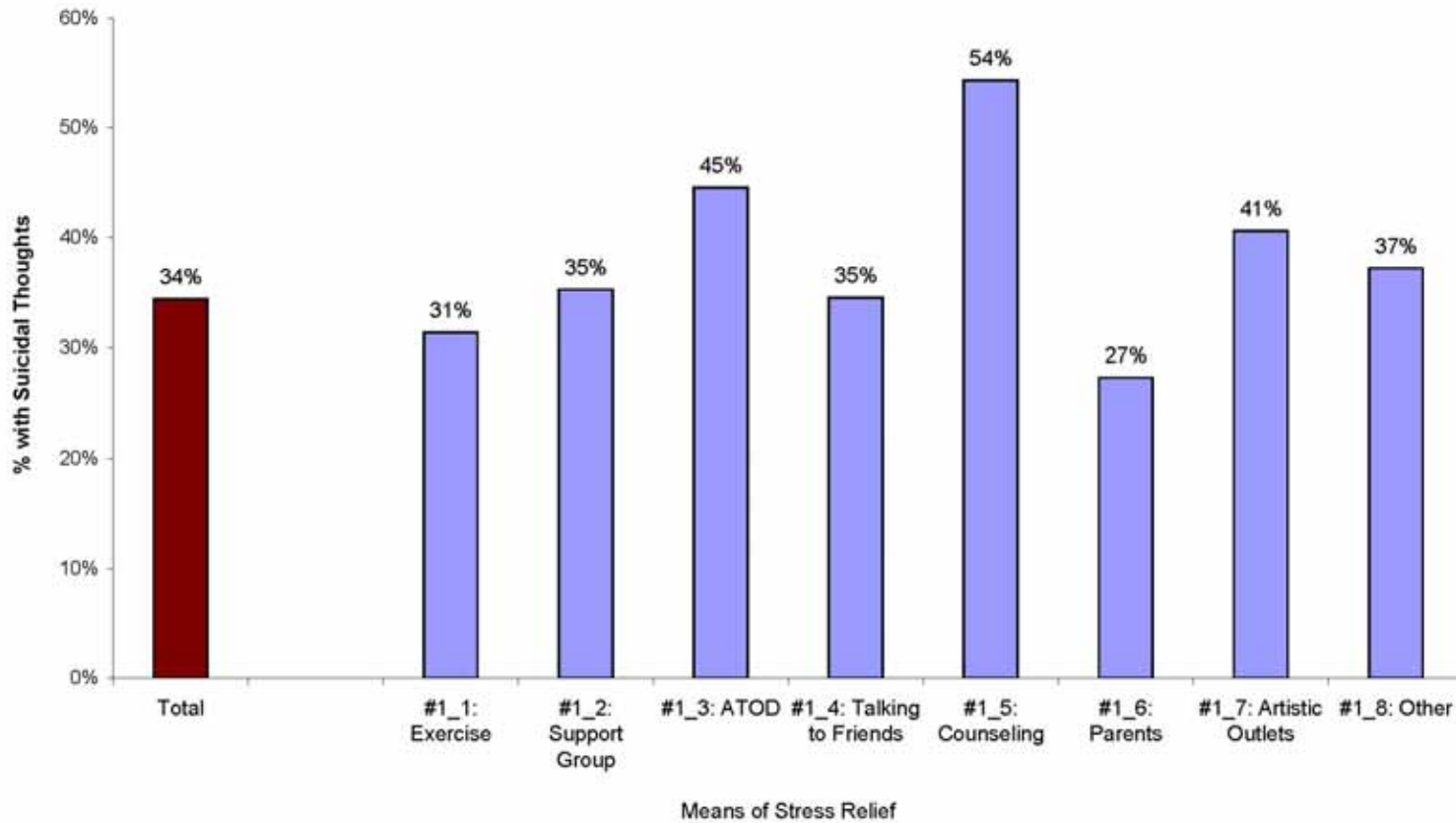
#94: Have you felt pressured to join a gang?

Hypothesis 4: Boys and nonwhites are more likely to be gang members than whites and girls.



#5: Have you had suicidal thoughts?

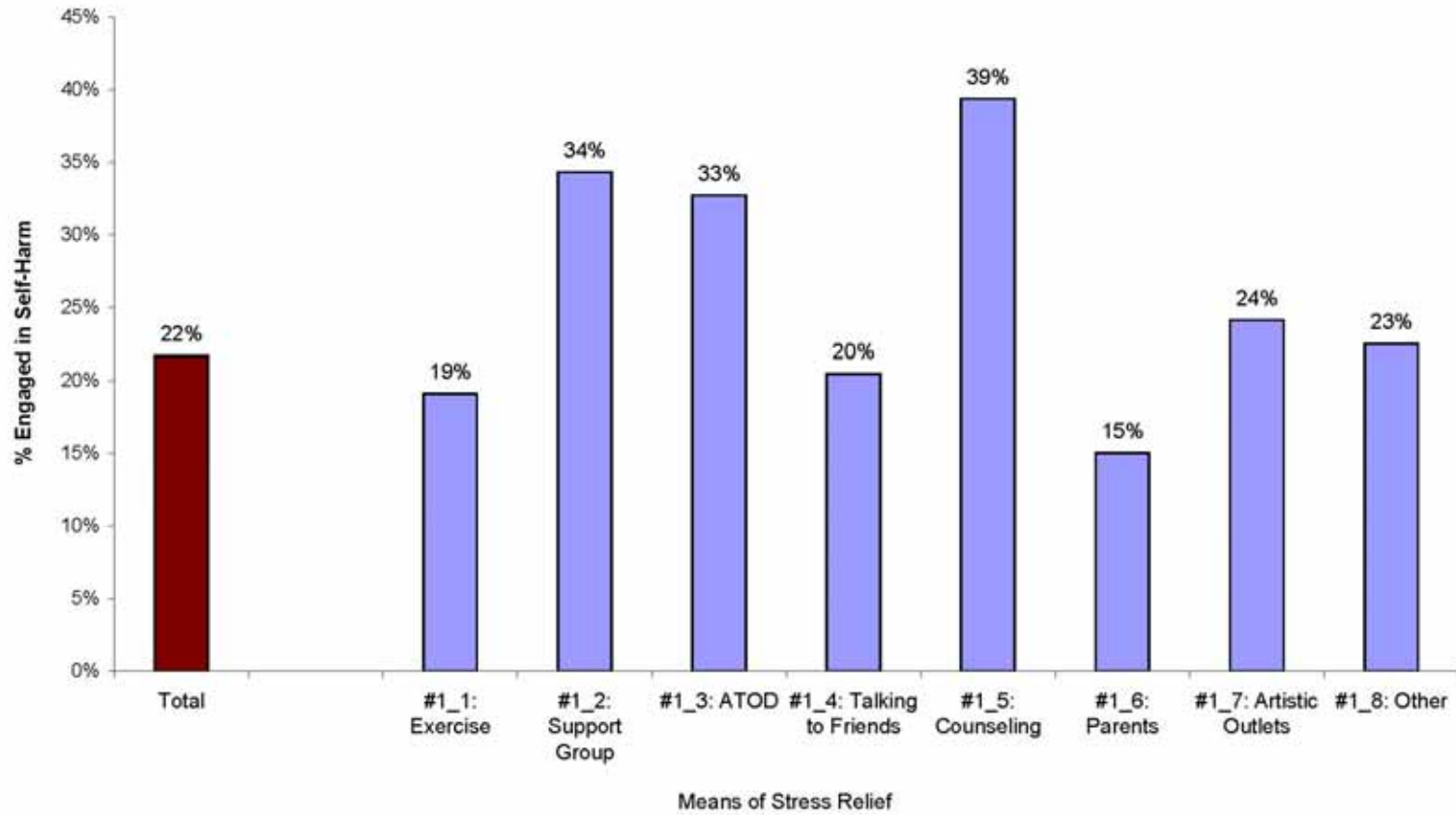
Hypothesis 5: Youth who do not have positive ways to relieve stress will engage in riskier behavior than those with positive stress relief.



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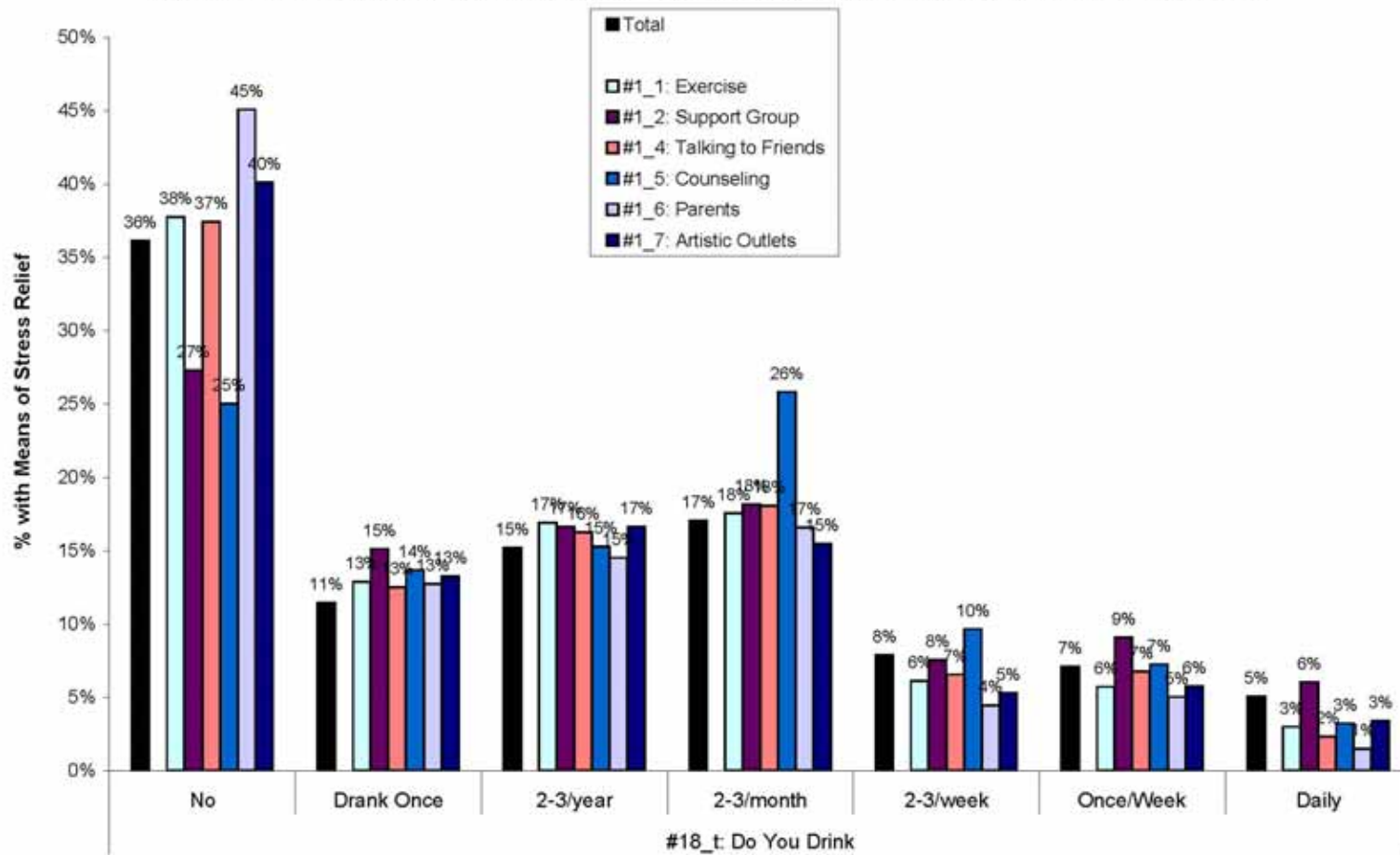
#7: Have you engaged in self-harm (cutting, burning, anorexia, bulimia, etc.)?

Hypothesis 5: Youth who do not have positive ways to relieve stress will engage in riskier behavior than those with positive stress relief.



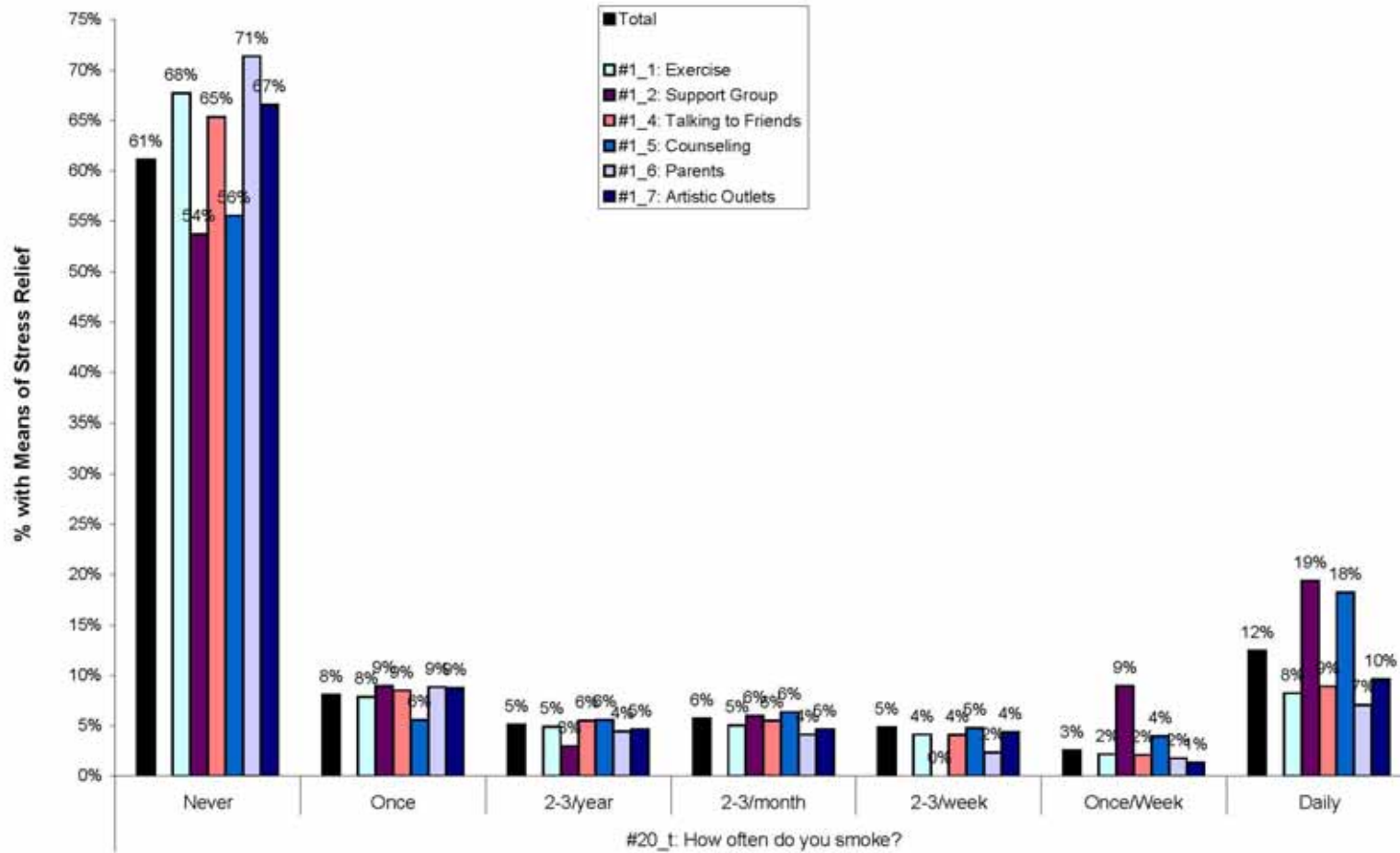
#18_t: Do you drink?

Hypothesis 5: Youth who do not have positive ways to relieve stress will engage in riskier behavior than those with positive stress relief.



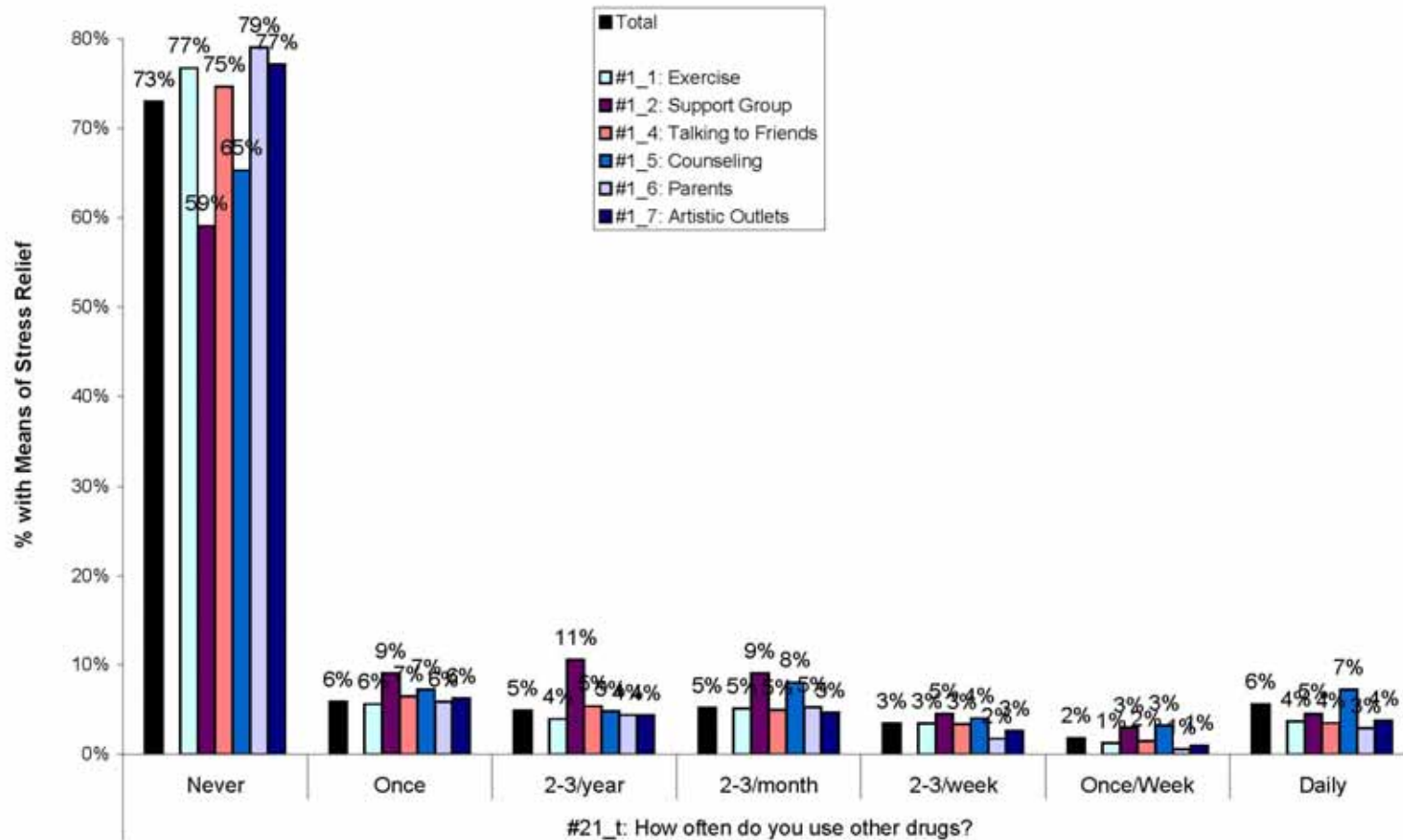
#20_t: How often do you smoke?

Hypothesis 5: Youth who do not have positive ways to relieve stress will engage in riskier behavior than those with positive stress relief.



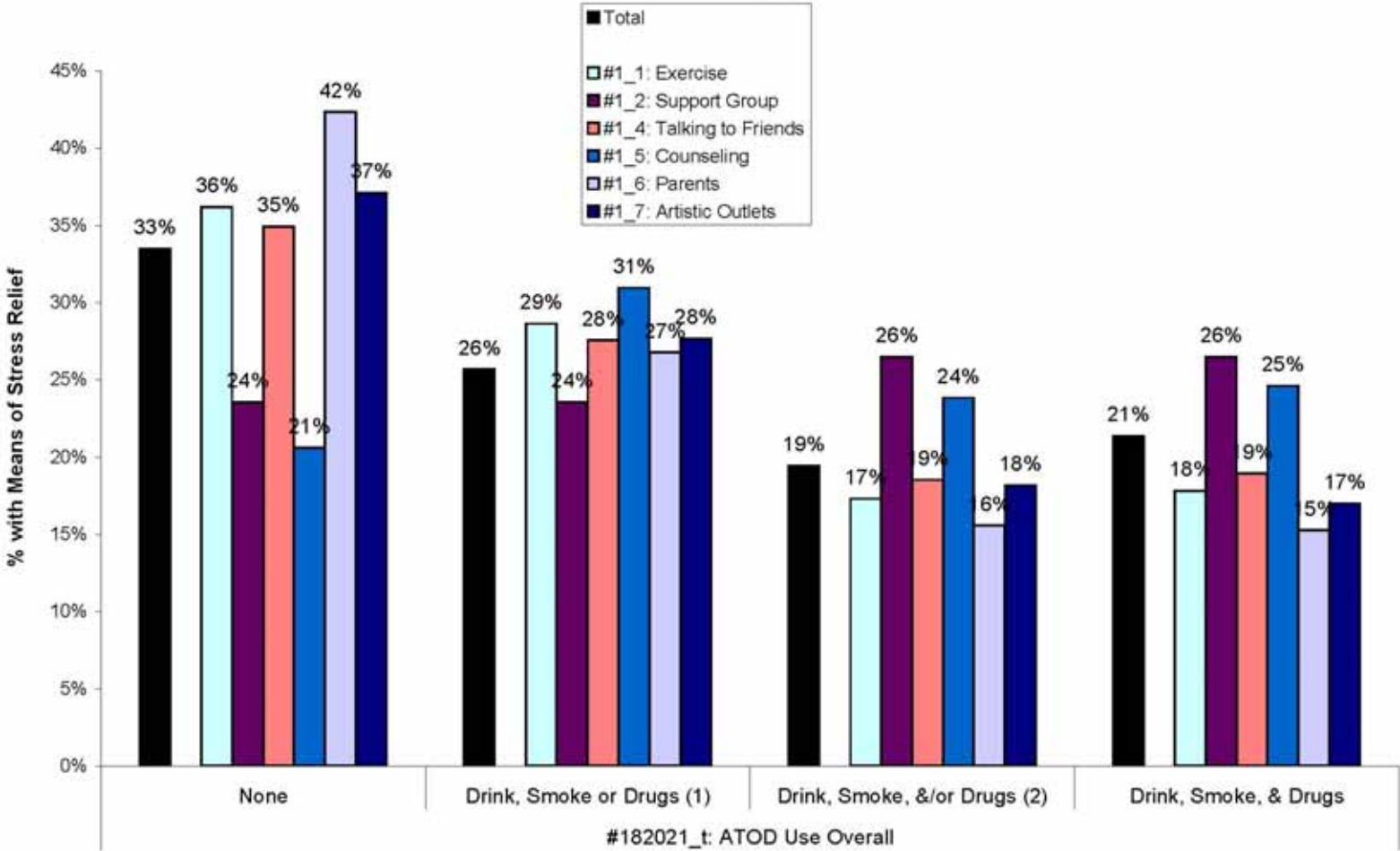
#21_t: How often do you use other drugs?

Hypothesis 5: Youth who do not have positive ways to relieve stress will engage in riskier behavior than those with positive stress relief.



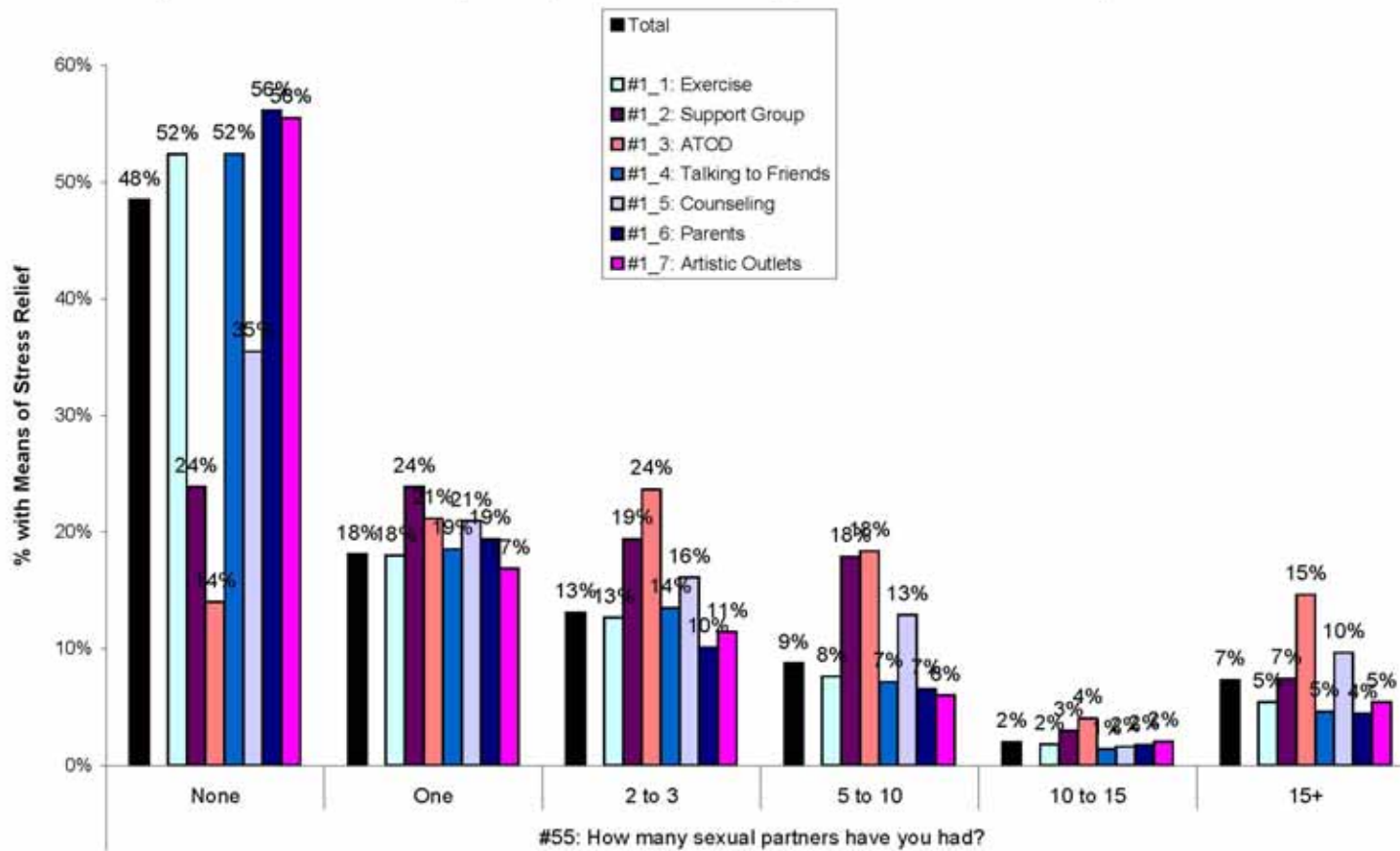
#182021_t: ATOD Use Overall

Hypothesis 5: Youth who do not have positive ways to relieve stress will engage in riskier behavior than those with positive stress relief.



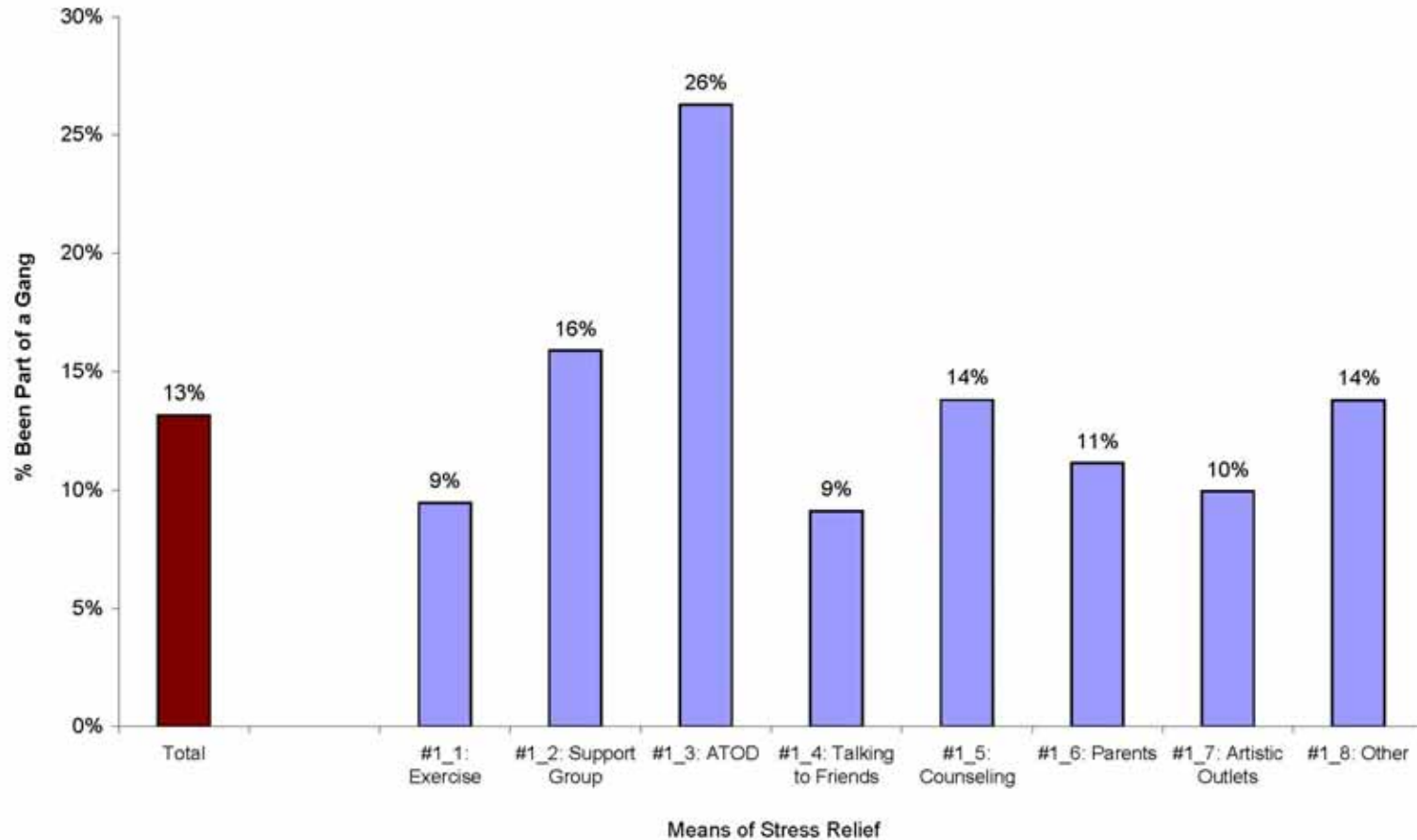
#55: How many sexual partners have you had?

Hypothesis 5: Youth who do not have positive ways to relieve stress will engage in riskier behavior than those with positive stress relief.



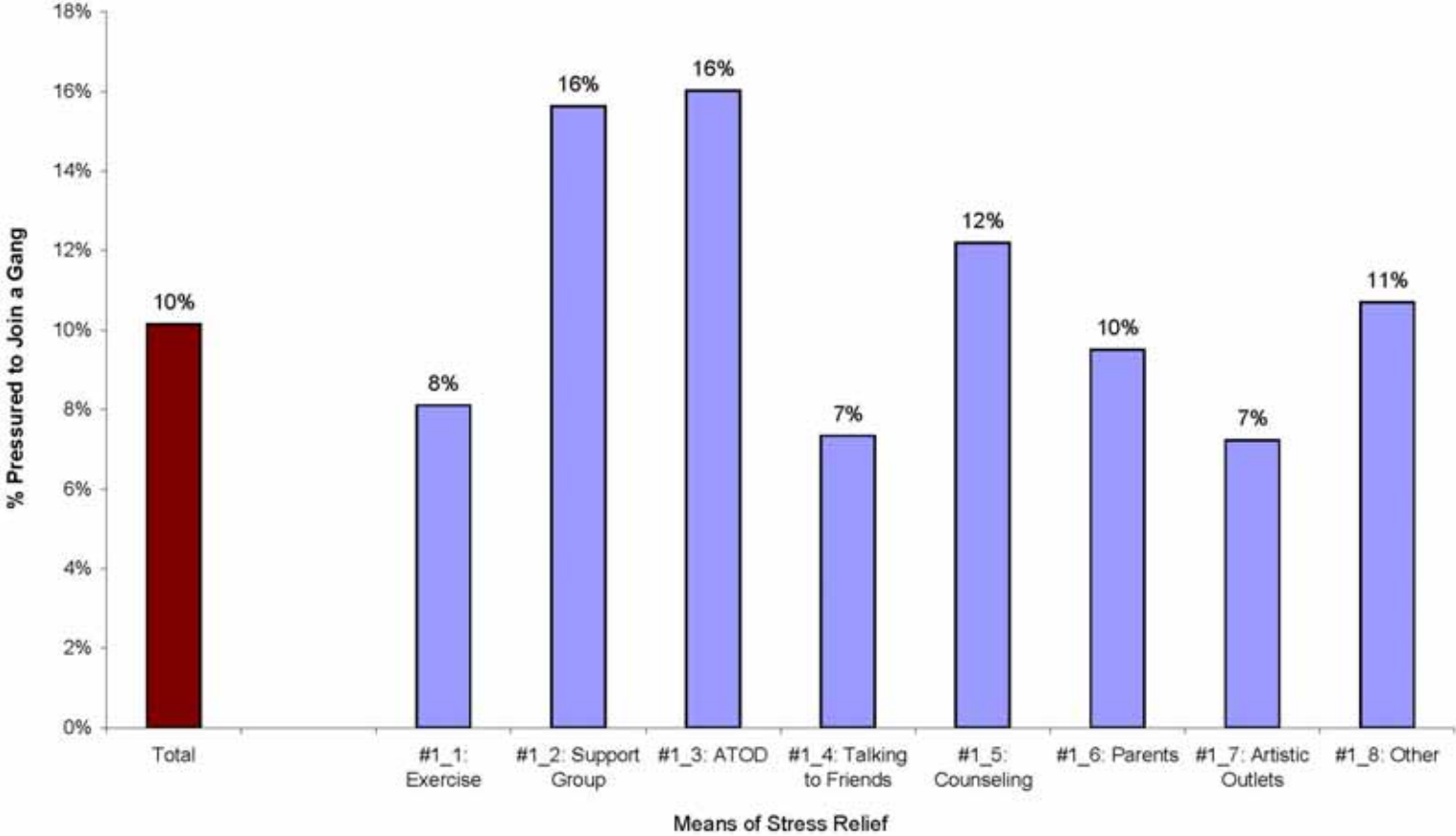
#93: Have you been part of a gang?

Hypothesis 5: Youth who do not have positive ways to relieve stress will engage in riskier behavior than those with positive stress relief.



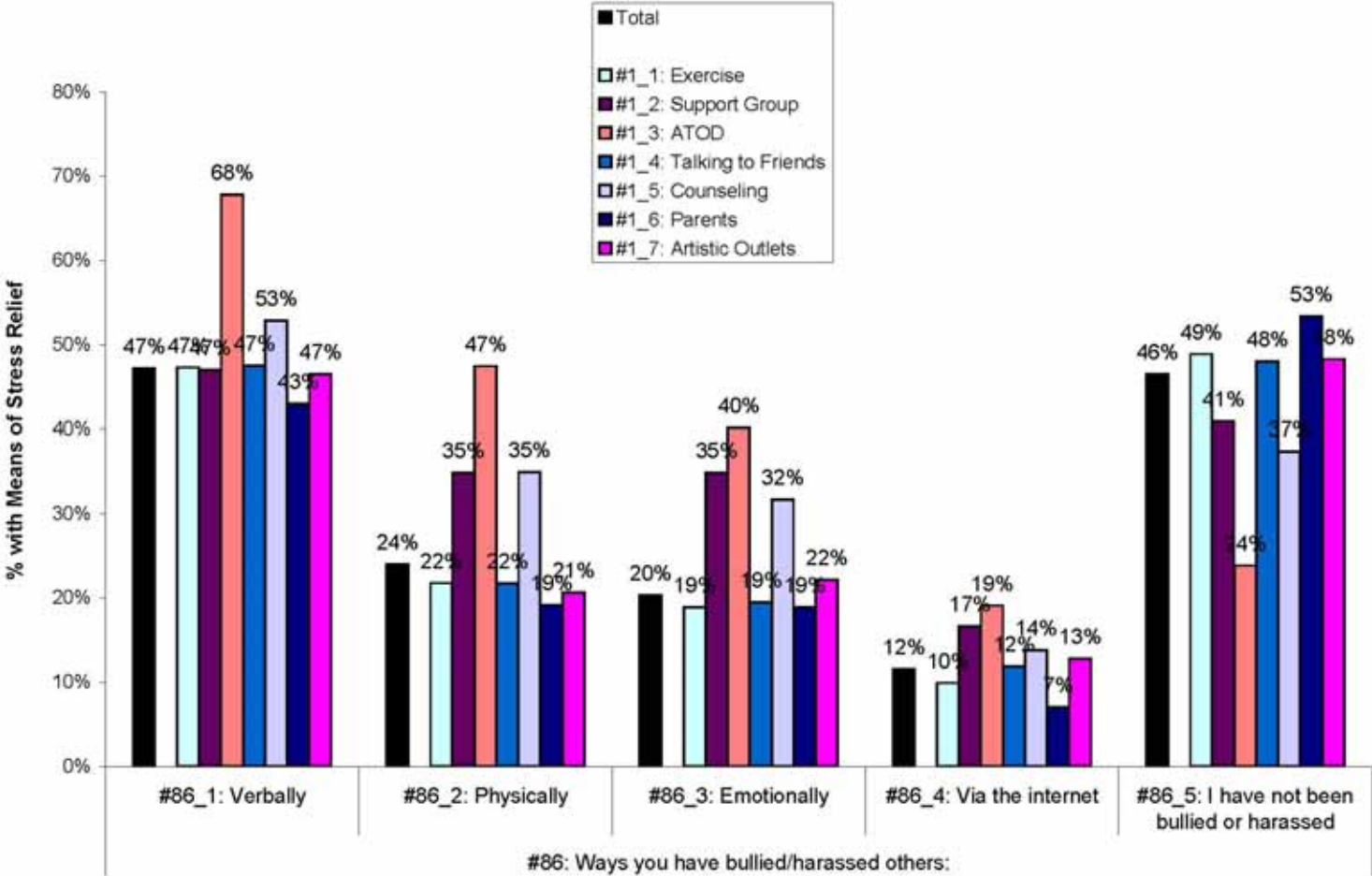
#94: Have you felt pressured to join a gang?

Hypothesis 5: Youth who do not have positive ways to relieve stress will engage in riskier behavior than those with positive stress relief.



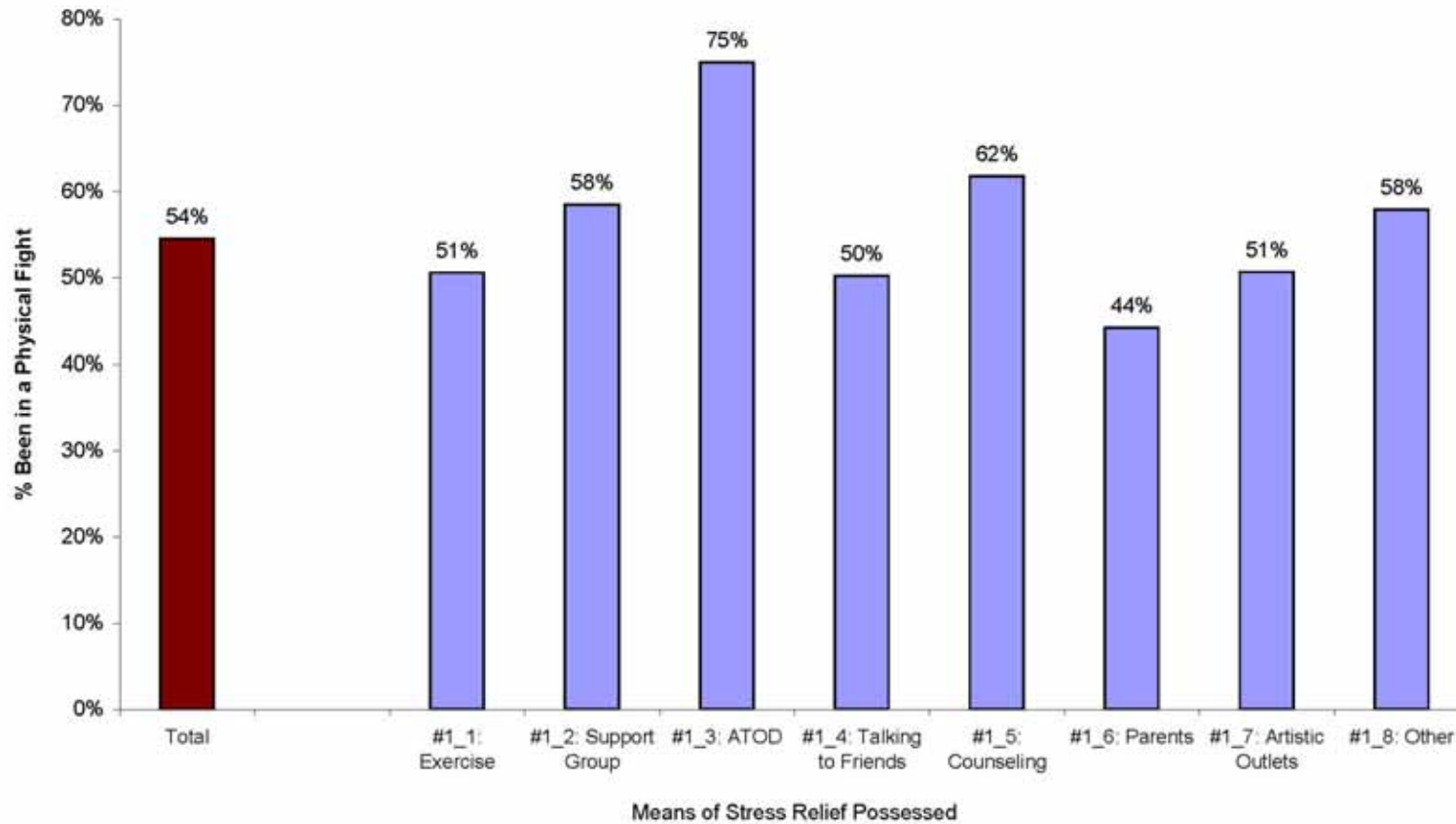
#86: Ways you have bullied/harassed others:

Hypothesis 5: Youth who do not have positive ways to relieve stress will engage in riskier behavior than those with positive stress relief.



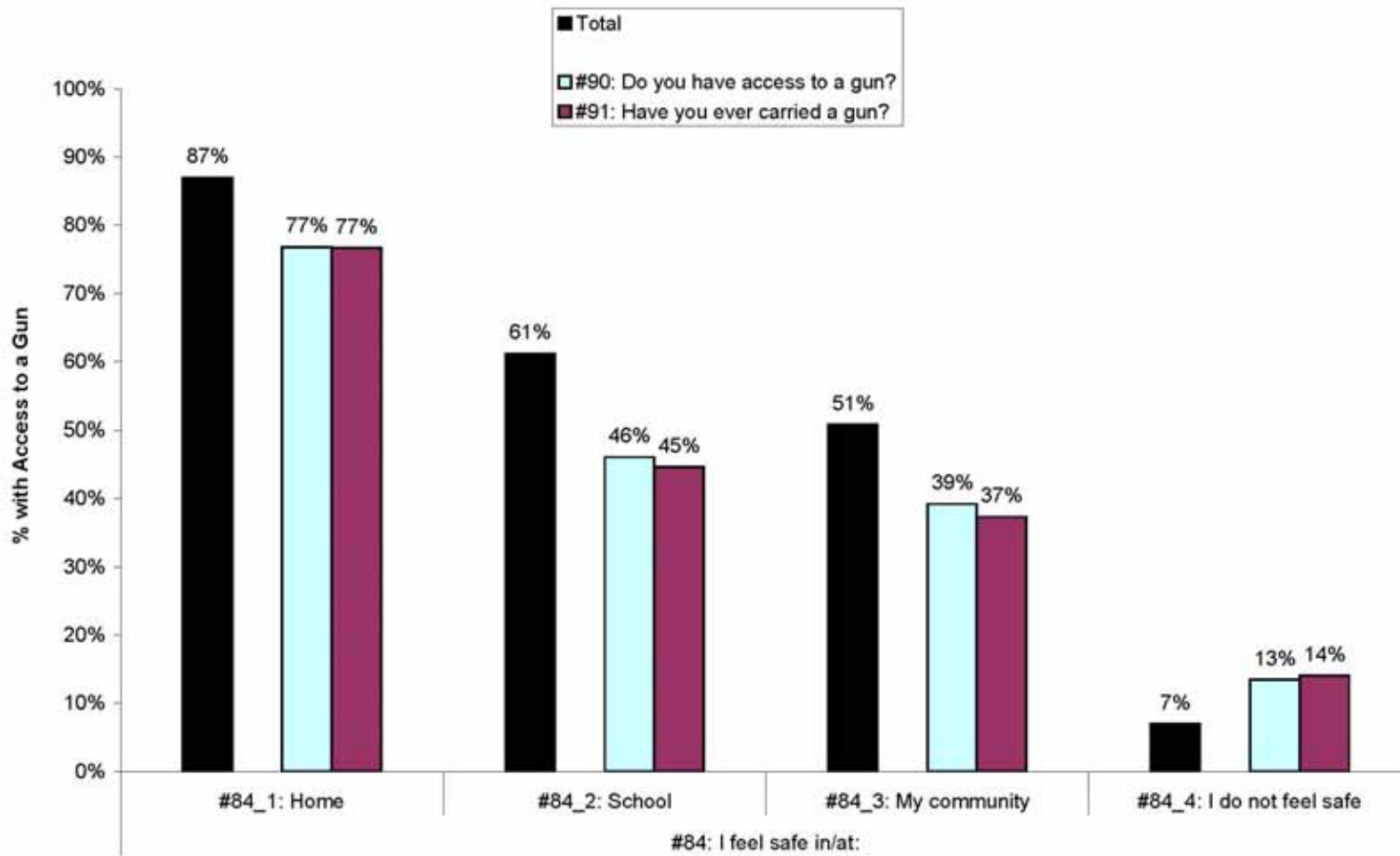
#89: Have you ever been in a physical fight?

Hypothesis 5: Youth who do not have positive ways to relieve stress will engage in riskier behavior than those with positive stress relief.



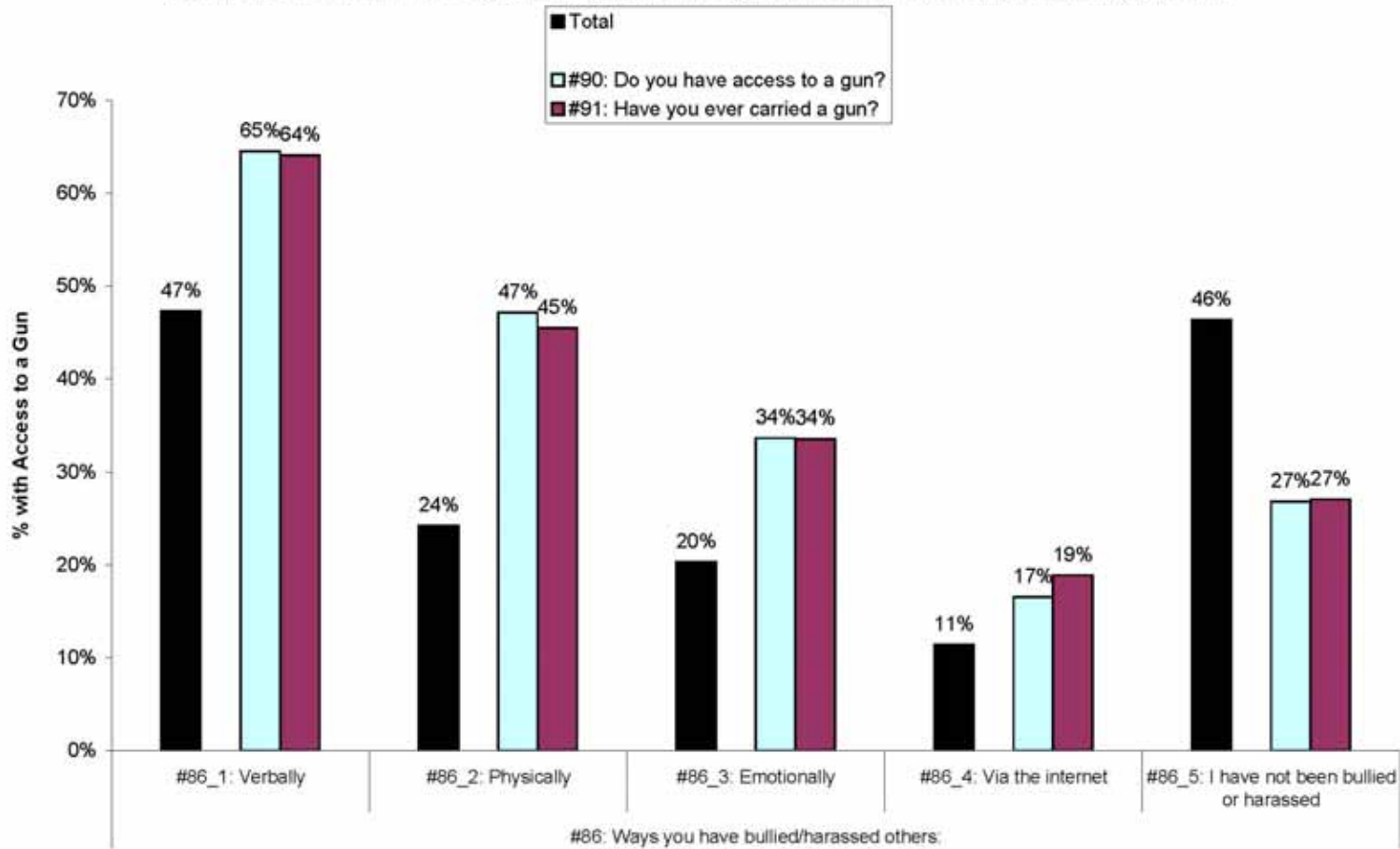
#84: I feel safe in/at:

Hypothesis 6: Youth with access to a gun are more likely to carry a gun and be prone to violence than those without gun access.



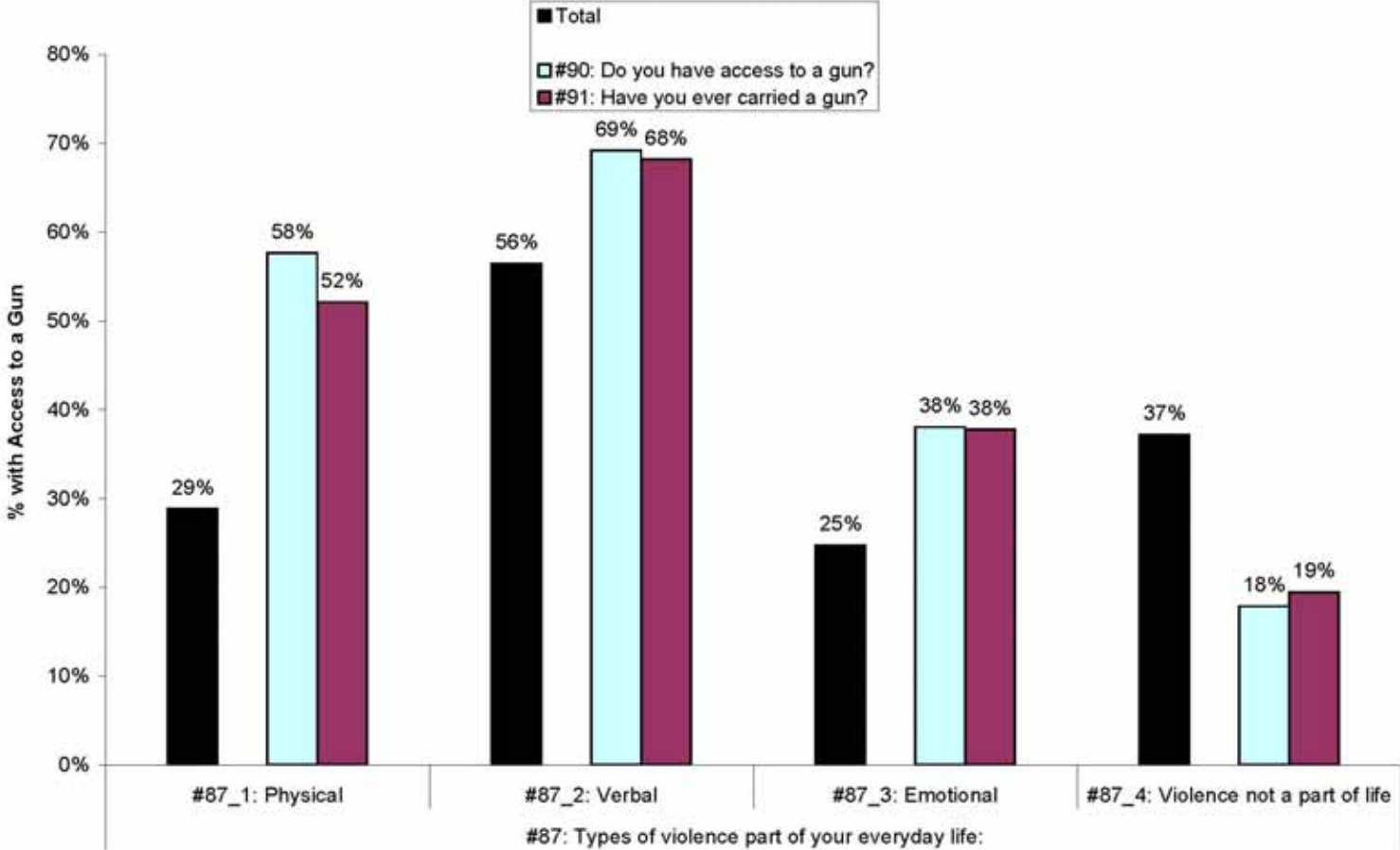
#86: Ways you have bullied/harassed others:

Hypothesis 6: Youth with access to a gun are more likely to carry a gun and be prone to violence than those without gun access.



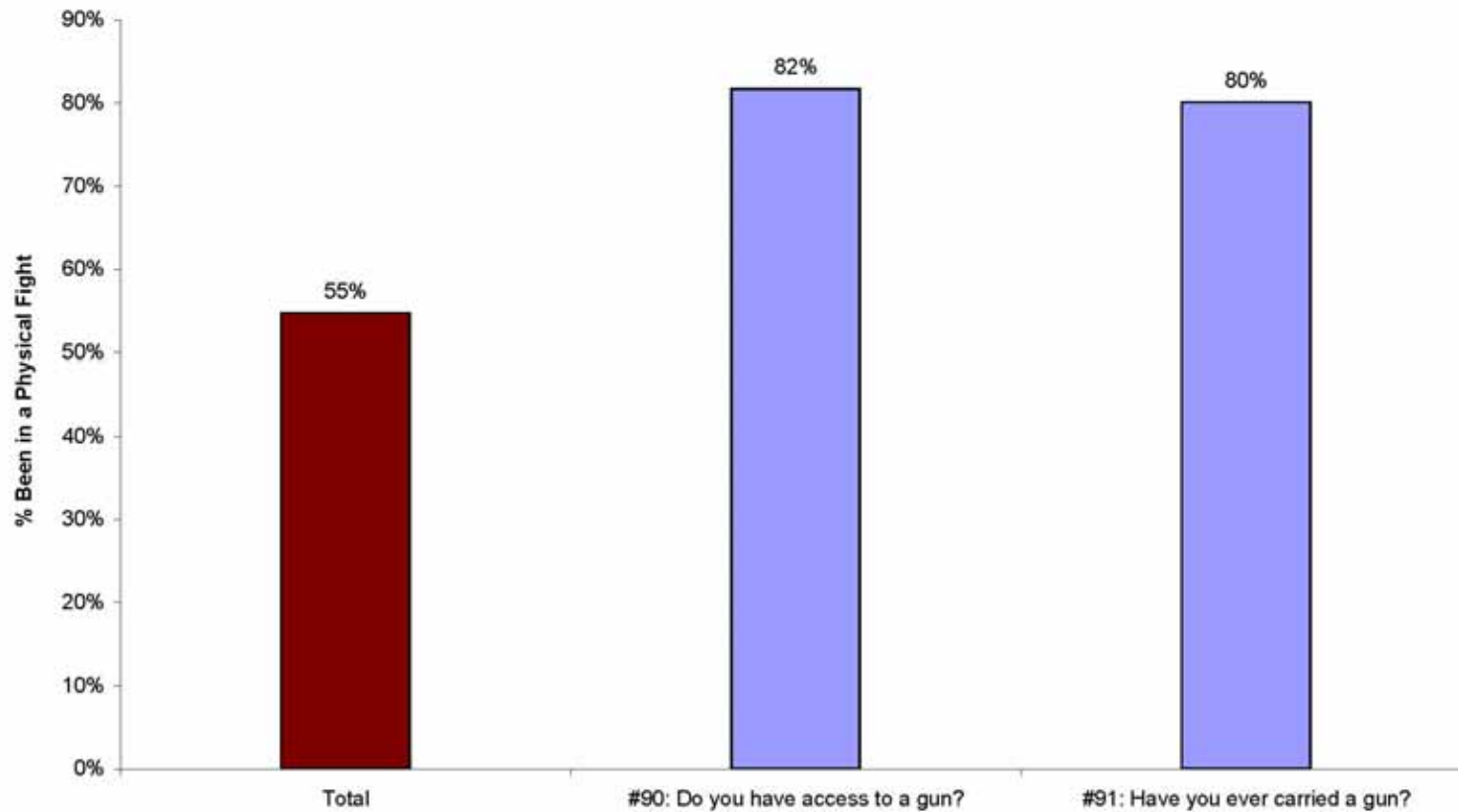
#87: Types of violence part of your everyday life

Hypothesis 6: Youth with access to a gun are more likely to carry a gun and be prone to violence than those without gun access.



#89: Have you ever been in a physical fight?

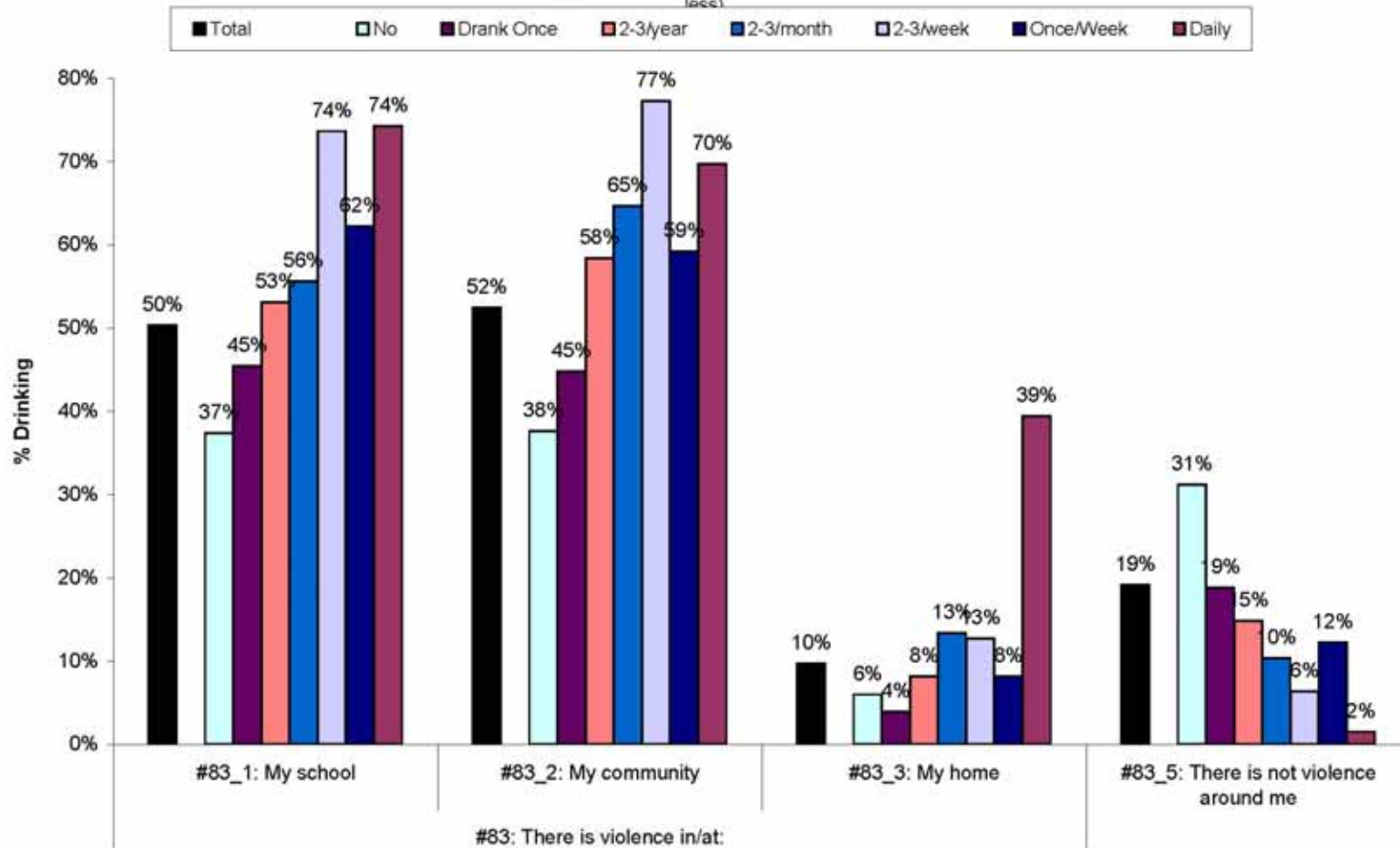
Hypothesis 6: Youth with access to a gun are more likely to carry a gun and be prone to violence than those without gun access.



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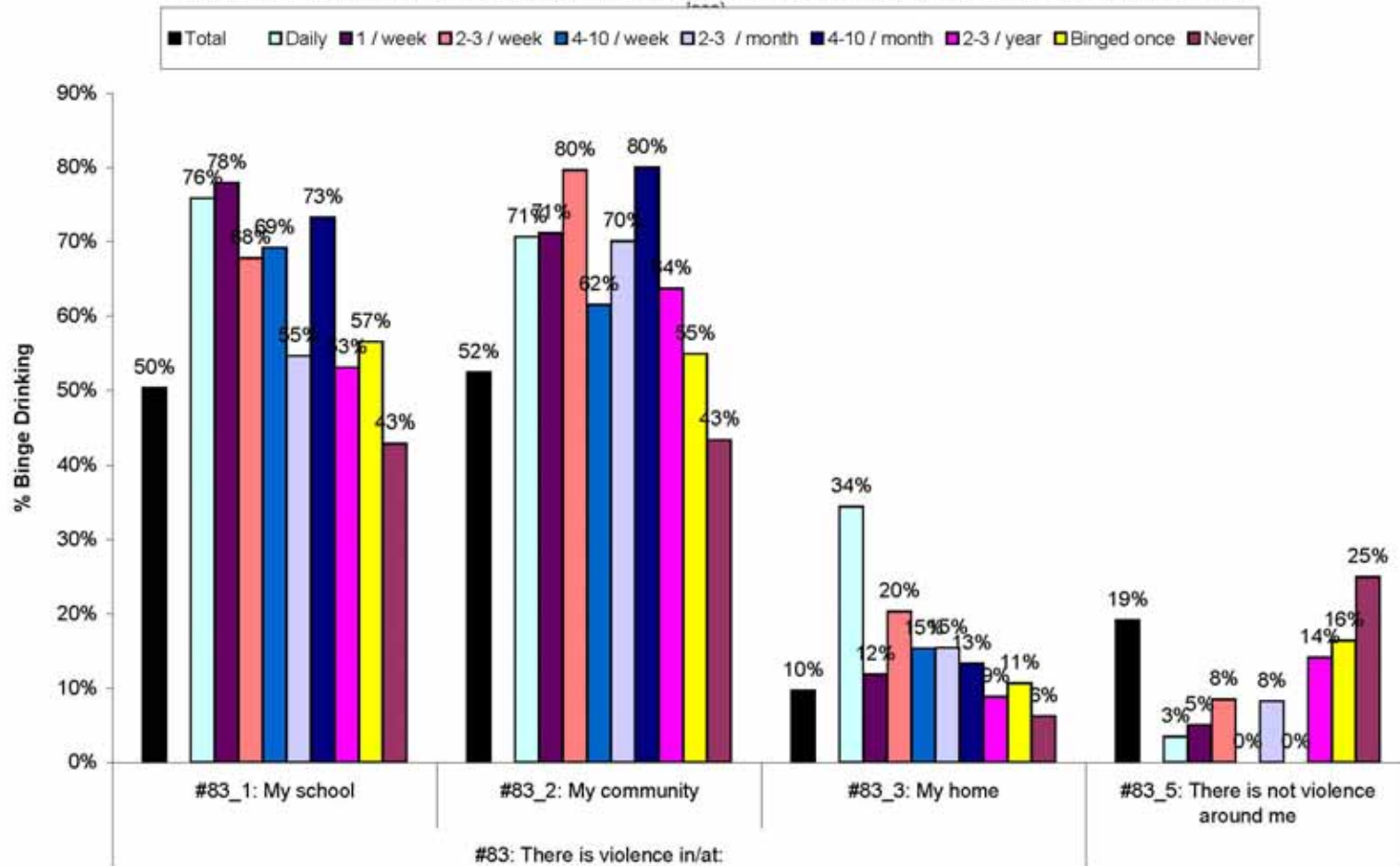
#83: There is violence in/at:

Hypothesis 7: Youth who drink (especially binge) or abuse drugs are more prone to violence than those who do not drink (or drink less)



#83: There is violence in/at

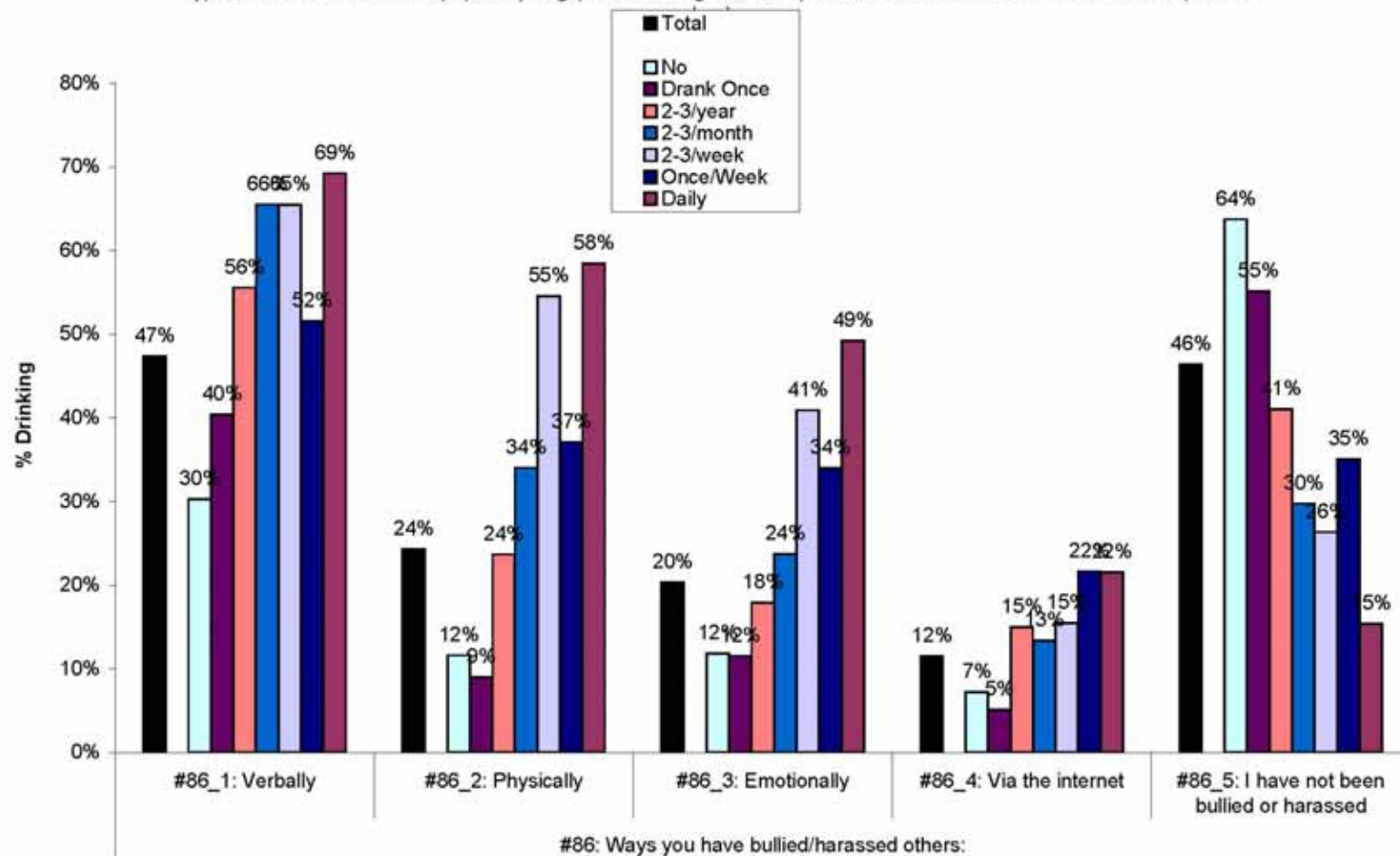
Hypothesis 7: Youth who drink (especially binge) or abuse drugs are more prone to violence than those who do not drink (or drink



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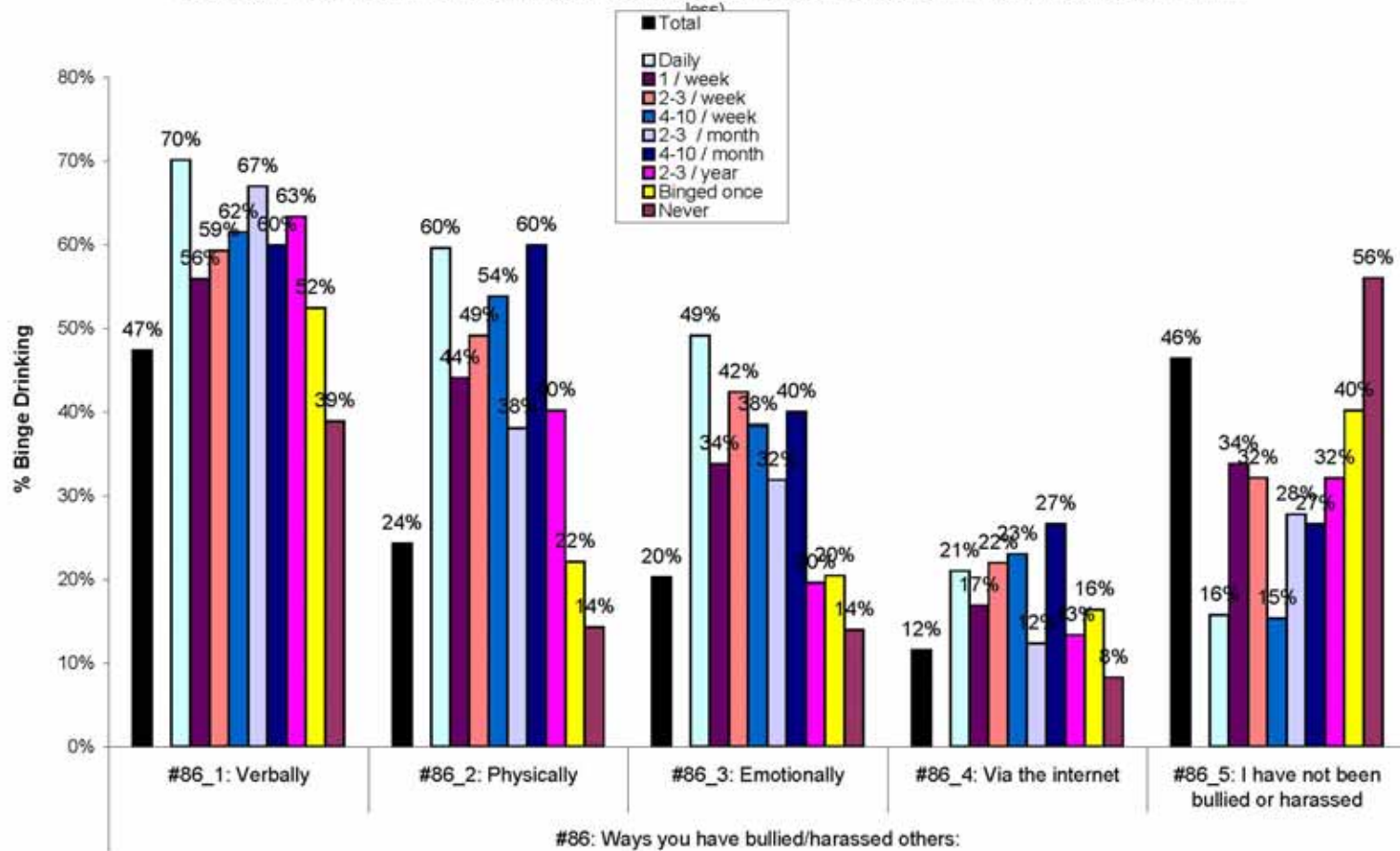
#86: Ways bullied / harassed others

Hypothesis 7: Youth who drink (especially binge) or abuse drugs are more prone to violence than those who do not drink (or drink



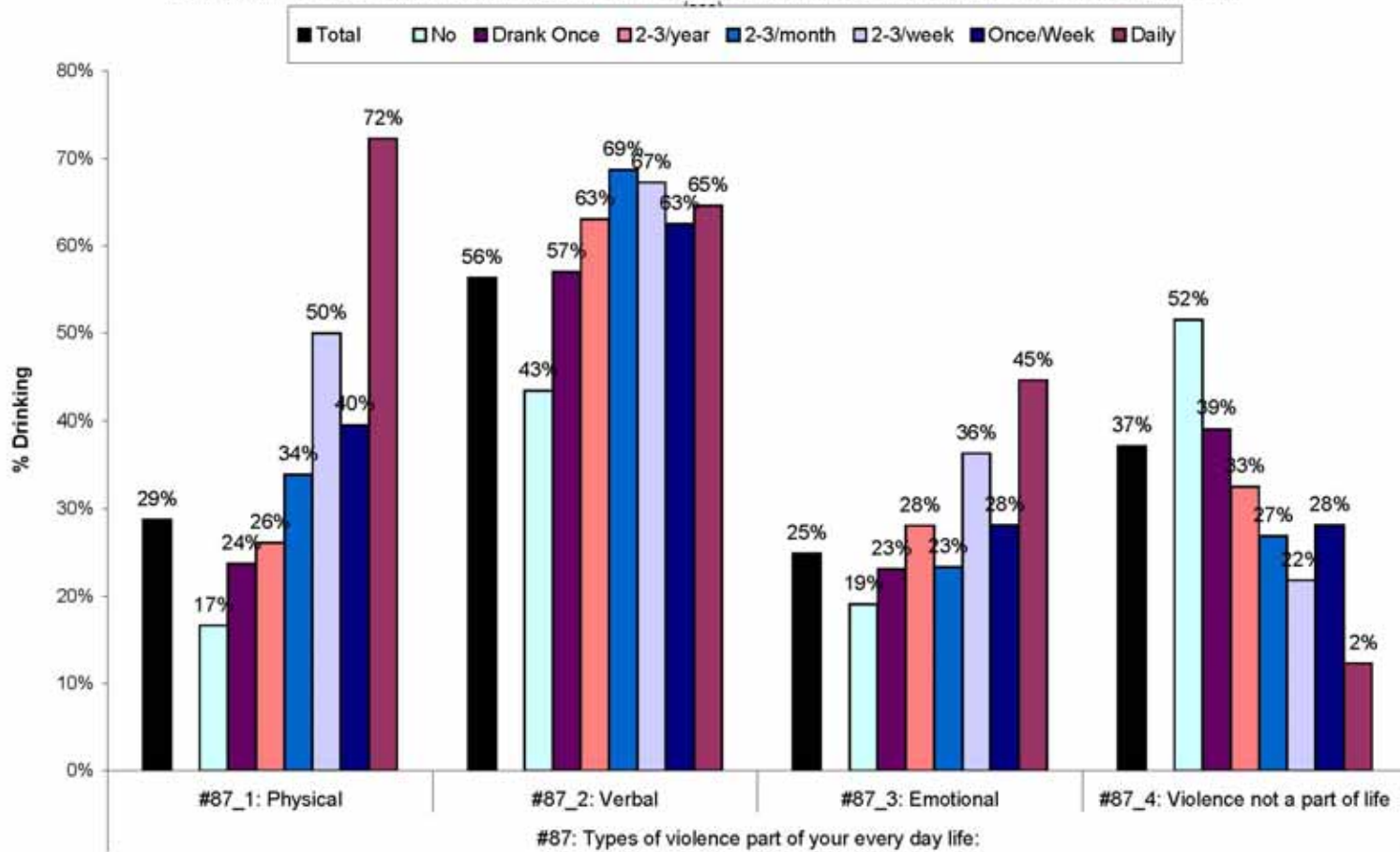
#86: Ways bullied / harassed others

Hypothesis 7: Youth who drink (especially binge) or abuse drugs are more prone to violence than those who do not drink (or drink less)



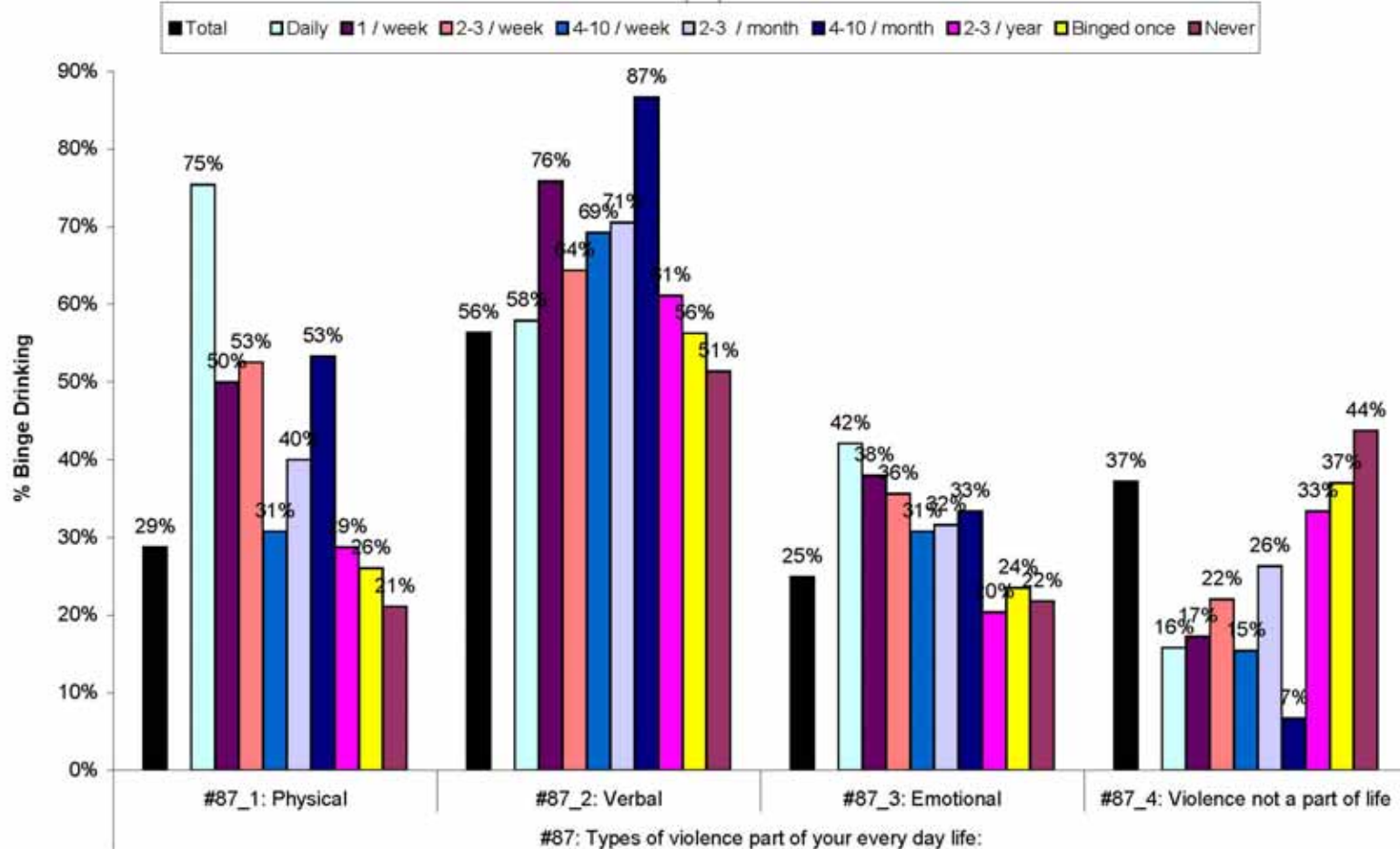
#87: Types of violence part of every day life

Hypothesis 7: Youth who drink (especially binge) or abuse drugs are more prone to violence than those who do not drink (or drink



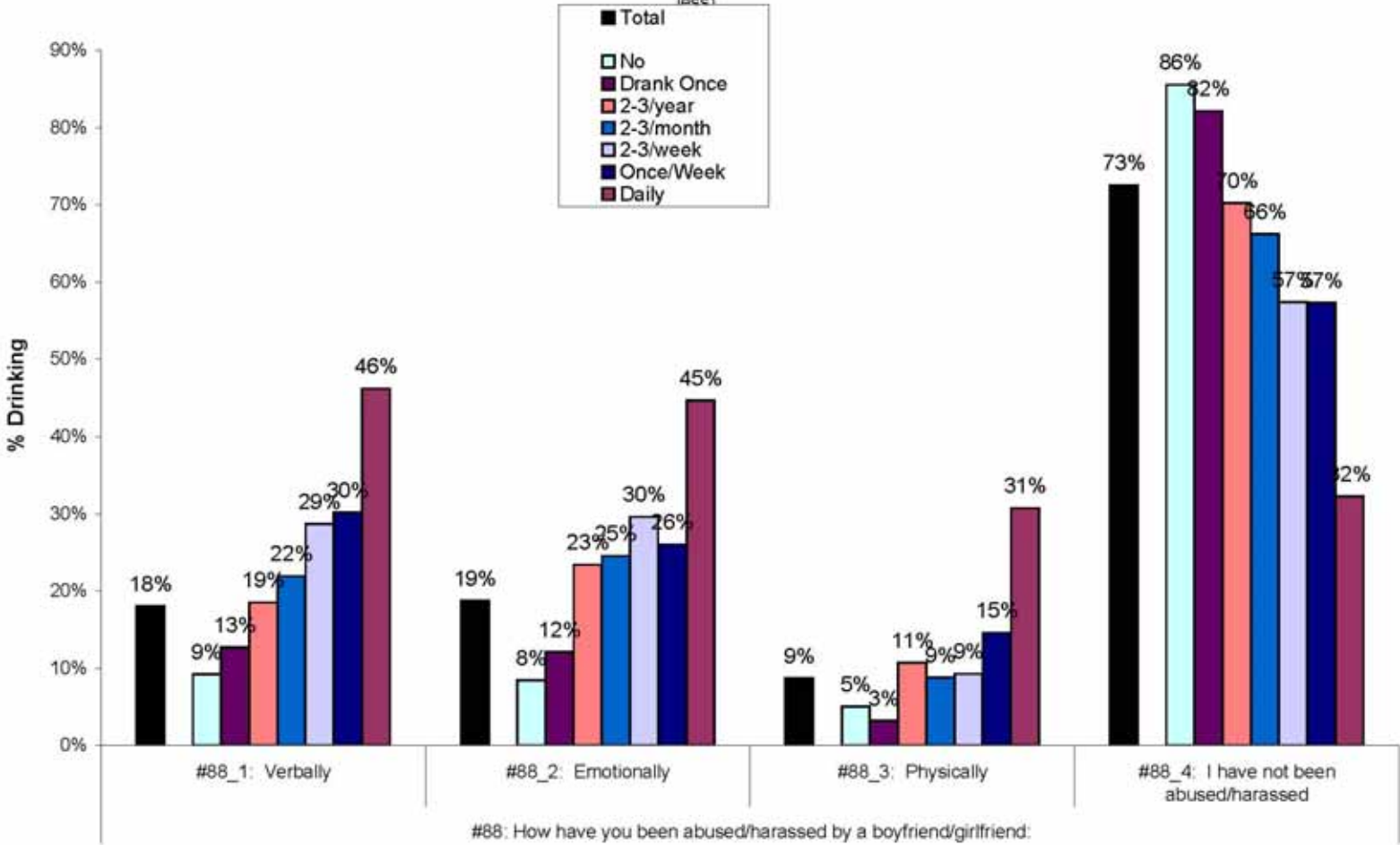
#87: Types of violence part of everyday life

Hypothesis 7: Youth who drink (especially binge) or abuse drugs are more prone to violence than those who do not drink (or drink



#88: How been abused by boy-girlfriend

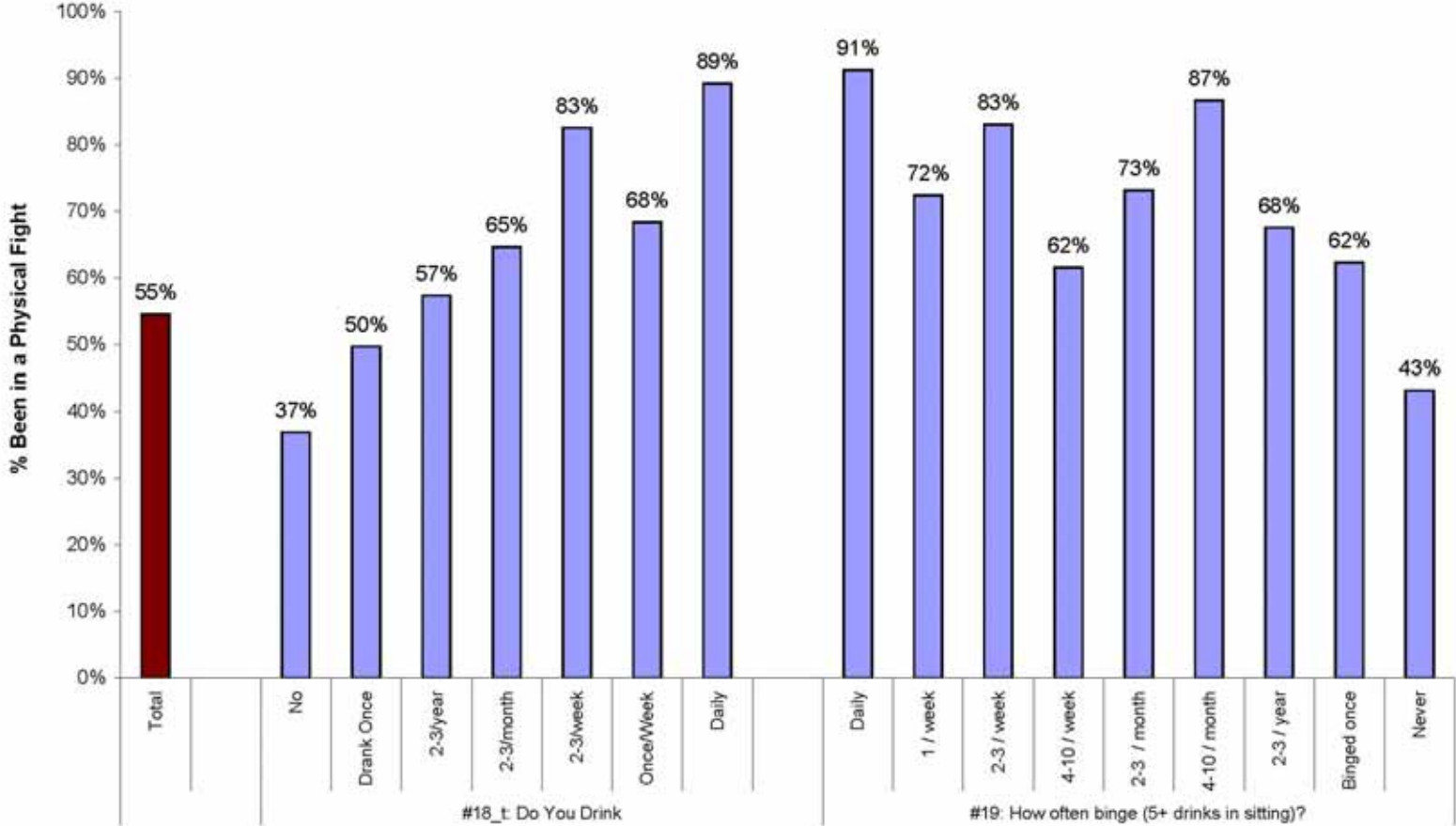
Hypothesis 7: Youth who drink (especially binge) or abuse drugs are more prone to violence than those who do not drink (or drink less)



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#89: Have you ever been in a physical fight?

Hypothesis 7: Youth who drink (especially binge) or abuse drugs are more prone to violence than those who do not drink (or drink less).



SAN MATEO COUNTY YOUTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT
Conducted by the San Mateo County Youth Commission

MENTAL HEALTH

1. Which of the following ways do you relieve stress? (Check all that apply.)

- Exercise
- Support groups
- Alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs
- Talking to friends
- Counseling
- Parents
- Artistic outlet such as music, drama, poetry, etc.
- Other (please explain) _____

2. Which of the following ways do you think your peers relieve stress?

- Exercise
- Support groups
- Alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs
- Talking to friends
- Counseling
- Parents
- Artistic outlet such as music, drama, poetry, etc.
- Other (please explain) _____

SAN MATEO COUNTY YOUTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT
Conducted by the San Mateo County Youth Commission

3. Where do you get emotional support (mark all that apply)?

- Friends
- Parent/Guardian
- Another family members such as sibling, aunt, uncle, cousin, etc.
- Another adult I trust
- Peer counseling
- Support groups
- School counselor
- Teacher
- I do not get emotional support.

4. Do you or have you ever taken prescription medication to deal with mental health or emotional problems?

- Yes
- No

5. Have you had suicidal thoughts?

- Yes
- No

6. If applicable, how many times have you had/do you have suicidal thoughts?

- Daily
- At least once a week
- 2-3 times a week
- 2-3 times a month
- 2-3 times a year
- Once
- I have not had suicidal thoughts.

SAN MATEO COUNTY YOUTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT
Conducted by the San Mateo County Youth Commission

7. Have you engaged in self-harm (cutting, burning, anorexia, bulimia, etc.)?

- Yes
- No

8. If applicable, how many times have you engaged in self-harm?

- Daily
- At least once a week
- 2-3 times a week
- 2-3 times a month
- 2-3 times a year
- Once
- I have not engaged in self-harm.

9. Do you have a friend who has had engaged in self-harm (cutting burning, anorexia, bulimia, etc.)?

- Yes
- No

10. If applicable, how many times do you think your friend has engaged in self-harm?

- Daily
- At least once a week
- 2-3 times a week
- 2-3 times a month
- 2-3 times a year
- I do not have a friend who has engaged in self-harm.

SAN MATEO COUNTY YOUTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT
Conducted by the San Mateo County Youth Commission

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
11. I live in a caring environment.	1	2	3	4
12. My school provides a caring environment.	1	2	3	4
13. Prescription medication is a good way to deal with mental health problems.	1	2	3	4
14. My school provides effective mental health services.	1	2	3	4
15. My school provides suicide prevention services.	1	2	3	4
16. My school should provide more mental health services for teens.	1	2	3	4
17. My school should provide more suicide prevention services for teens.	1	2	3	4

ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, AND OTHER DRUGS

18. Do you drink alcohol? If yes, how often?

- Yes, daily
- Yes, once a week
- Yes, 2-3 times a week
- Yes, 2-3 times a month
- Yes, 2-3 times a year
- Yes, I drank once
- No, I do not drink

SAN MATEO COUNTY YOUTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT
Conducted by the San Mateo County Youth Commission

19. Do you binge drink? (binge drinking = consuming 5 or more alcoholic drinks in a sitting) If yes, how often?

- Yes, daily
- Yes, once a week
- Yes, 2-3 times a week
- Yes, 4-10 times a week
- Yes, 2-3 times a month
- Yes, 4-10 times a month
- Yes, 2-3 times a year
- Yes, I binged once
- No, I have never binged on alcohol.

20. Do you smoke? If yes, how often?

- Yes, daily
- Yes, once a week
- Yes, 2-3 times a week
- Yes, 2-3 times a month
- Yes, 2-3 times a year
- Yes, I have smoked once
- No, I do not smoke

21. Do you use other drugs? If yes, how often?

- Yes, daily
- Yes, once a week
- Yes, 2-3 times a week
- Yes, 2-3 times a month
- Yes, 2-3 times a year
- Yes, I did drugs once
- I do not do other drugs

SAN MATEO COUNTY YOUTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT
Conducted by the San Mateo County Youth Commission

22. What other drugs have you used or do you currently use (mark all that apply)?

Marijuana

Ecstasy

Cocaine

Heroin

Mushrooms

Methamphetamines

Crack

Steroids

Other (please specify) _____

I do not use drugs

23. Do your close friends (if yes, mark all that apply)?

Drink

Smoke

Use other drugs

My friends do not do any of the above

SAN MATEO COUNTY YOUTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT
Conducted by the San Mateo County Youth Commission

24. Why do you use alcohol, tobacco or other drugs (mark all that apply)?

- Boredom
- Peer influence
- Family influence
- Friend influence
- Media Influence
- Image (to fit in/look cool)
- For fun
- It feels good
- To escape
- To relieve stress
- Other (please explain) _____
- I don't use alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs

25. Who do you drink, smoke or use other drugs with (check all that apply)?

- Friends
- Family
- Alone
- Other (please explain) _____
- I do not use alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs

26. Where do you use alcohol, tobacco or other drugs?

- My house
- A friend's house
- A park
- At school
- A club
- Other (please explain) _____
- I do not use alcohol, tobacco or other drugs

SAN MATEO COUNTY YOUTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT
Conducted by the San Mateo County Youth Commission

27. My parent/guardian (s) know (s) that I use (mark all that apply)

- Alcohol
- Tobacco
- Other drugs
- My parent/guardian does not know that I use any of the above
- I do not use any of the above

28. My parent/guardian (s) do (es) not mind that I use (mark all that apply)

- Alcohol
- Tobacco
- Other drugs
- My parent/Guardian does not approve of my use of any of the above
- My parent/guardian does not know that I use any of the above
- I do not use any of the above

29. How do you get alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs (mark all that apply)?

- From peers
- From older friends
- I can buy it at a store
- From parents
- I use a fake ID
- I can get it at school
- From other adults
- By stealing
- I don't get alcohol, tobacco or other drugs

SAN MATEO COUNTY YOUTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT
Conducted by the San Mateo County Youth Commission

30. Do you currently or have you ever sold (if yes, mark all that apply)
- Alcohol
 - Tobacco
 - Other drugs
 - I have never sold alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs
31. Do you buy drugs? If yes, how often?
- Yes, daily
 - Yes, once a week
 - Yes, 2-3 times a week
 - Yes, 2-3 times a month
 - Yes, 2-3 times a year
 - Yes, I bought drugs once
 - No, I have never bought drugs
32. I know of a store in my community where minors can purchase (mark all that apply)
- Alcohol
 - Tobacco
 - Other drugs
 - I do not know of a store in my community that sells any of these to minors
33. When was the first time you bought drugs?
- Elementary school
 - Middle school
 - High School
 - I have not bought drugs

SAN MATEO COUNTY YOUTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT
Conducted by the San Mateo County Youth Commission

34. Has anyone ever told you that you need help for substance abuse?

Yes

No

Not applicable, I do not use alcohol, tobacco or other drugs

35. Have you ever been in treatment for substance abuse?

Yes

No

Not applicable, I do not use alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs

36. Have you ever gotten help to quit smoking?

Yes

No

Not applicable, I have not and do not smoke

37. Do you know of services that offer help for substance abuse problems?

Yes

No

SAN MATEO COUNTY YOUTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT
Conducted by the San Mateo County Youth Commission

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
38. I know how to get help for substance abuse if I need to.	1	2	3	4
39. I feel I need help with substance abuse.	1	2	3	4
40. My school provides effective drug and alcohol prevention services.	1	2	3	4
41. There are enough activities and events in my community for youth that are drug and alcohol free.	1	2	3	4
42. Youth need a place to go for entertainment or recreation that is drug and alcohol free.	1	2	3	4

43. Which of the following services are effective for substance abuse prevention (mark all that apply)?

- Assemblies
- Guest speakers
- Written information, brochures
- Classroom presentations
- Opportunities for involvement in the community
- Opportunities for recreation that are drug, alcohol, and tobacco free
- Other (please explain) _____
- None of the above

SAN MATEO COUNTY YOUTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT
Conducted by the San Mateo County Youth Commission

SEX AND SEXUALITY

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
44. Schools should provide education about sex and sexuality.	1	2	3	4
45. Schools should teach only about abstinence.	1	2	3	4
46. Schools should teach about safe sex and contraception.	1	2	3	4
47. Schools should teach about abstinence and safe sex and contraception.	1	2	3	4

48. Where do you receive information about sex and sexuality (mark all that apply)?

- Health class
- School nurse
- Health clinic
- Religious studies
- Friends
- Parents
- My religion
- Media
- Other (please explain) _____
- I do not get information about sex and sexuality

SAN MATEO COUNTY YOUTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT
Conducted by the San Mateo County Youth Commission

49. Which of the following are effective for understanding sex and sexuality (mark all that apply)?

- Pictures or visual aids
- Guest speakers
- Media
- Open discussions about sex and sexuality
- Examples of contraception
- Other (please give example) _____

50. Which of the following topics should be included in sex education (mark all that apply)?

- Contraception
- Safe sex
- Abstinence
- Information about lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender issues
- Open discussions about sex and sexuality
- Rape
- Alcohol and drugs

51. What do you consider “sexually active” (mark all that apply)?

- Oral sex
- Anal sex
- Vaginal sex
- Other penetration
- Making out without penetration
- Touching in a sexual way

SAN MATEO COUNTY YOUTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT
Conducted by the San Mateo County Youth Commission

52. Which of the following is closest to your beliefs?

- It is okay to have sex if you are in a committed relationship.
- It is okay to have a one night stand.
- It is okay to have sex with someone if you are not in a committed relationship.
- I believe it is okay to have sex with multiple partners with no commitment.
- I do not believe it is okay for teenagers to have sex.

53. If applicable, which of these pressure youth to hide their sexual orientation (mark all that apply)?

- I do not feel pressure to hide my sexual orientation
- Fear of discrimination
- Fear of violence
- Uncertainty about my orientation
- My family would not accept it
- My friends would not accept it
- My work place would not accept it
- Other _____

54. From which of the following do you feel the most pressure that you should be having sex?

- Friends
- Media
- My partner
- Teacher/coach
- Other (please explain) _____
- I do not feel pressure to have sex

SAN MATEO COUNTY YOUTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT
Conducted by the San Mateo County Youth Commission

55. How many sexual partners have you had?

- None
- One
- 2-3
- 5-10
- 10-15
- 15 +

56. Do you practice safe sex?

- Always
- Usually
- Occasionally
- Never
- I am not sexually active

57. Have you ever been pregnant or gotten someone else pregnant?

- Yes
- No
- I do not know
- Not applicable

58. Has someone close to you had an abortion?

- Yes
- No

59. Have you ever had an abortion?

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

SAN MATEO COUNTY YOUTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT
Conducted by the San Mateo County Youth Commission

60. Do you consider abortion a form of birth control?
 Yes
 No
61. Have you ever had sex with someone with whom you are not in a committed relationship?
 Yes
 No
 Not applicable, I have not had sex
62. Have you ever had sex while drinking or high?
 Yes
 No
 I don't know
63. Have you ever been raped or forced to have sex against your will?
 Yes
 No
 I'm not sure
64. Have you seen a doctor regarding your sexual health?
 Yes
 No
65. Have you been tested for STDs/HIV/AIDS because of personal concerns?
 Yes
 No
66. Do you know of resources and services in your community for pregnant teens?
 Yes
 No

SAN MATEO COUNTY YOUTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT
Conducted by the San Mateo County Youth Commission

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
67. Resources in the community for pregnant or parenting teens are accessible to me.	1	2	3	4
68. Resources in the community for pregnant or parenting teens are effective.	1	2	3	4
69. I am making informed personal decisions about sex and sexuality.	1	2	3	4
70. I feel comfortable talking about sex and sexuality.	1	2	3	4
71. Parents should be able to excuse their son/daughter from sex/sexuality education	1	2	3	4
72. Sexually active youth should get tested for STDs, HIV, and/or AIDS.	1	2	3	4
73. Birth control and contraception are easily available to teens.	1	2	3	4

DISCRIMINATION

74. How often do you see vandalism related to discrimination?

- Never
- 2-3 times a year
- 2-3 times a month
- 2-3 times a week
- 2-3 times a day
- 4-10 times a day
- 10 or more times a day

SAN MATEO COUNTY YOUTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT
Conducted by the San Mateo County Youth Commission

75. How often do you observe/experience unequal treatment related to discrimination?

- Never
- 2-3 times a year
- 2-3 times a month
- 2-3 times a week
- 2-3 times a day
- 4-10 times a day
- 10 or more times a day

76. How often do you hear slurs or discriminatory comments?

- Never
- 2-3 times a year
- 2-3 times a month
- 2-3 times a week
- 4-10 times a week
- 2-3 times a day
- 4-10 times a day
- 10 or more times a day

77. How often do you feel or have you felt discriminated against?

- Never
- 2-3 times a year
- 2-3 times a month
- 2-3times a week
- 4-10 times a week
- 2-3 times a day
- 4-10 times a day
- 10 or more times a day

SAN MATEO COUNTY YOUTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT
Conducted by the San Mateo County Youth Commission

78. Why do or did you feel discriminated against?

Because of my...

- Race or culture
- Sexual orientation
- Perceived sexual orientation (the sexual orientation others think I am)
- Religion
- Financial situation
- Language
- Age
- Ability (physical, academic, etc.)
- Gender
- Other (please explain) _____
- I do not experience discrimination

79. When do you feel the most discriminated against (mark all that apply)?

- At school
- In my community/public
- At home
- In my place of work
- I do not feel discriminated against

80. Who do you feel discriminates against you (mark all that apply)?

- My peers
- Teachers
- Adults in the community
- Police
- Other (please explain) _____
- I do not feel discriminated against

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81. Schools should promote tolerance through these methods (mark all that apply)?

- Guest speakers
- Strict behavior policies
- Class discussions
- Diversity days/fairs
- Classroom curriculum
- Schools should not be required to promote tolerance
- Other (please explain) _____

82. My school does the following to promote tolerance (mark all that apply)?

- Guest speakers
- Strict behavior policies
- Class discussions
- Class curriculum (study units)
- Diversity Days/fairs
- Other (please explain) _____
- My school does not promote tolerance

VIOLENCE

83. There is violence in/at (mark all that apply)

- My school
- My community
- My home
- Other (Please explain) _____
- There isn't violence around me.

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84. I feel safe in/at (mark all that apply)

- Home
- School
- My community
- I do not feel safe.

85. In what ways have you been bullied or harassed (mark all that apply)?

- Verbally
- Physically
- Emotionally
- In written form
- Via the internet
- I have not been bullied or harassed

86. Have you ever bullied or harassed others?

- Verbally
- Physically
- Emotionally
- Via the internet
- I have not bullied or harassed others

87. What types of violence are a part of your every day life (mark all that apply)?

- Physical (hitting, slapping, kicking, pushing, etc.)
- Verbal (name calling, put downs, insults, etc.)
- Emotional (threats, isolation, controlling, etc.)
- Violence is not a part of my every day life

SAN MATEO COUNTY YOUTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT
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88. How have you been abused/harassed by a boyfriend/girlfriend (mark all that apply)?

- Verbally
- Emotionally
- Physically
- I have not been abused by a boyfriend/girlfriend

89. Have you ever been in a physical fight?

- Yes
- No

90. Do you have access to a gun?

- Yes
- No

91. Have you ever carried a gun?

- Yes
- No

92. How often do you see people bring weapons to your school?

- Often
- Occasionally
- Rarely
- One time
- Never

93. Have you been part of a gang?

- Yes
- No

SAN MATEO COUNTY YOUTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT
Conducted by the San Mateo County Youth Commission

94. Have you felt pressured to join a gang?

Yes

No

95. Has a gang ever jumped or threatened you?

Yes

No

96. Do gangs in your community make you feel threatened?

Yes

Somewhat

No

There are no gangs in my community

SAN MATEO COUNTY YOUTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT
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	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
97. Youth need education about violence prevention.	1	2	3	4
98. Youth need more gang prevention programs.	1	2	3	4
99. Youth need more information about teen dating violence or relationship violence.	1	2	3	4
100. I know non-violent ways to deal with conflict.	1	2	3	4
101. Media increases youth violence (i.e. Video games, music, movies).	1	2	3	4
102. My peers accept violent behavior.	1	2	3	4
103. My peers get excited when there is a fight at school	1	2	3	4
104. I have someone to talk to if I experience violence.	1	2	3	4
105. I know of a safe place to go if I experience violence.	1	2	3	4
106. I feel violence is acceptable.	1	2	3	4

107. If there was a teen center in your area, would you go there?

Yes

No

SAN MATEO COUNTY YOUTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT
Conducted by the San Mateo County Youth Commission

108. What activities would you like to see offered at a teen center (mark all that apply)?

- Poetry Slams
- Teen music shows (bands, djs, open mic, etc.)
- Art projects (ceramics, mural projects, photography)
- Volunteer opportunities or community service
- A café
- Movie nights
- A place to hang out with other youth
- Athletics/Games (pool, basketball, dance, etc.)

PLEASE TELL US A LITTLE MORE ABOUT YOU ON THE NEXT PAGE

109. What is your gender?	<input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Decline to state
110. What school do you attend? (optional)	_____
111. How old are you?	_____
112. Do you qualify for free or reduced lunch at school?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> I don't know
113. What is the primary language spoken by your family?	
<p>114. Which of the following best describes your ethnicity or cultural background? Please feel free to specify in the spaces provided.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> African-American / Black: _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Asian / Pacific Islander:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Cambodian <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese <input type="checkbox"/> Filipin(-a / -o) <input type="checkbox"/> Hawai'ian <input type="checkbox"/> Indian <input type="checkbox"/> Japanese <input type="checkbox"/> Korean <input type="checkbox"/> Pakistani <input type="checkbox"/> Samoan <input type="checkbox"/> Thai <input type="checkbox"/> Tongan <input type="checkbox"/> Vietnamese <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <p><input type="checkbox"/> Middle Eastern / North African:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Arab <input type="checkbox"/> Iranian / Persian <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <p><input type="checkbox"/> Latin(-a / -o) / Hispanic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Caribbean <input type="checkbox"/> Central American <input type="checkbox"/> Mexican / Chican(-a / -o) <input type="checkbox"/> South American <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <p><input type="checkbox"/> Multi-ethnic / -racial: _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Native / Indigenous: _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> White / European: _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Ethnicity / cultural background not listed above: _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Decline to state</p>	

**THANK YOU FOR
YOUR TIME AND
INPUT!!!!**

METHODOLOGY

California Healthy Kids Survey Methods

The California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS) is a comprehensive and customizable youth self-report data collection system that provides essential and reliable health risk assessment and resilience information to schools, districts, and communities.

Targeted at grades 5-12, the CHKS enables schools and communities to collect and analyze valuable data regarding local youth health risks, assets, and behaviors. It is designed to be part of a comprehensive data-driven decision making process to help guide the development of more effective health, prevention, and youth development programs. It is administered every two years to a majority of schools in the county.

The CHKS employs a set of questionnaire modules that collect data across a comprehensive range of risk behaviors. Current modules cover: alcohol and other drug use, tobacco use, violence and school safety, nutrition and physical health, sexual behavior and attitudes, and youth resilience.

CHKS data included in this report are from the 2003-04 school year.

For more information: www.wested.org/hks/

Youth Commission Survey Methods

Questionnaire Development

In fall 2004 the San Mateo County Youth Commission began to deliberate on what they wanted to do as a group project. When asked what they felt the youth of San Mateo County needed, they reflected that they truly did not feel that they could speak for all youth in the County. They identified areas of concern that face youth – alcohol, tobacco and other drugs, mental health, sex and sexuality, discrimination, and violence, but did not know the specific needs, attitudes and behaviors of youth with regard to those topics. They decided that in order to make informed decisions regarding these issues, they first needed to survey youth in the county to gather real data.

In spring of 2005, the Youth Commission began drafting their survey. The Health Department offered its support to review the survey to ensure that it was a reliable instrument that would produce usable data. The survey went through a number of iterations until it was finally approved by the Board of Supervisors in July of 2005. Youth Commissioners

discussed the best means for delivering the survey and the target populations they wanted to reach. Youth Commissioners determined that they would be able to gather the most surveys if the surveys were distributed in classroom throughout the county. They decided that the sample should be representative of youth in the county and to the greatest extent possible include youth from public, private, non-traditional, and continuation schools as well as reaching youth in juvenile hall. Youth Commissioners expressed a strong commitment to reaching youth who may not be in the mainstream and therefore have the greatest needs as well as those youth who may seem to be well supported and have access to the resources that they need.

After the survey was reviewed by the County Office of Education, Youth Commissioners and Youth Commission staff began contacting principals and teachers at high schools across the county to find venues where the survey could be completed. Youth Commissioners hoped to collect at least one thousand surveys (1,000) from youth in the high school age range – 14-18 years old. Youth Commissioners were deliberate to collect surveys from youth in all levels of academic achievement from honors classes to continuation schools and special education. From September of 2005 through November of 2005 Youth Commissioners delivered surveys in classrooms across the county. When possible the Youth Commissioners went to the classrooms where the survey was distributed to talk about the background of the survey and explain its purpose. When that was not feasible Youth Commission staff would go and deliver the surveys with an explanation letter written by the Youth Commission. The Youth Commissioners (or their letter) explained that the survey was voluntary and anonymous. They explicitly explained that results from the survey would be used to report back to the Board of Supervisors and to make recommendations regarding programming and policy affecting youth in the County.

Once the surveys were collected they were delivered to a contracting agency in San Francisco, CfMC, for data entry. After data was entered by CfMC, the paper surveys were shredded and the data tables were sent to the Epidemiologist at the Health Department. Epidemiologists met several times with Youth Commissioners to develop the analysis plan and hypothesis that would guide the analysis of the data.

Sample

1,475 students returned questionnaires within the designated time frame. Of these, 44 (3%) were excluded because values were missing (i.e., blank) for all questions. The final sample size was 1,431.

Analyses

School

Missing information for school occurred for a few reasons. Students had the option to leave the “school” question blank if they wanted further anonymity and one school specifically requested that their students not complete this question. In addition, young adults who were not in school left this blank as well. Since the school variable was used to group respondents into geographical regions of the county, those missing a school response were missing a region response. Because of the low numbers of schools and respondents living in the Coastside region of the county, these responses were grouped with Mid-County.

The analysis plan was developed by the Youth Commission, in conjunction with the Epidemiology Unit of the San Mateo County Health Department. Three main analyses were designed: an overview/description of the sample, hypothesis testing for each of the five sections of the questionnaire (mental health, alcohol/drug use, sexuality, violence, and discrimination), and a needs assessment based on perceptions of services provided by respondents’ school and community.

Hypotheses were tested using the chi-squared test for categorical variables and ANOVA tests for continuous variables. Tests with associated p-values of $<.05$ were indicated in the charts. A p-value is the probability of obtaining a result at least as extreme as the one that was obtained if the tested hypothesis is false. Generally, one rejects the null hypothesis (accepts the tested hypothesis) if the p-value is smaller than or equal to the significance level, which we set to 0.05. A p-value is less than 0.05 indicates that the results seen would be very unlikely if the tested hypothesis is false. The conclusion is then one of the following:

1. The hypothesis is correct, or
2. An event with a probability less than or equal to 5% has occurred.

If the test statistic is outside the critical region (i.e., ≥ 0.05), the only conclusion is that ***there is not enough evidence to reject the hypothesis***. This is ***not*** the same as evidence in favor of the null hypothesis – lack of evidence against a hypothesis is not evidence for it.

AUTHORS

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