



Livingston
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ADAPT Survey Presentation

BOE Meeting April 2, 2018

“Data should be used as a Flashlight, not a Hammer.”

Codey Decker



Alcohol & Drug Abuse Prevention Team

Student Survey Report 2018

Student Survey Report



The need for such a survey is clear. The “drug problem” and the context within which substance use and abuse occurs will not improve without intervention.

Like other local and national studies of drug use, this survey attempts to shed light on and more accurately describe the ever-changing use of illicit drugs by youth. With prevalence and trend data, public debate can be enhanced and resources and policymaking can be based on evidence, not misconceptions. Information received through this survey has been very valuable in helping community organizations, coalitions, and schools develop needed research- and evidence-based prevention and intervention services throughout Essex County, NJ.

The 2018 Youth Survey involved 2,983 students from grades 6-12. The survey was administered during the month of January in 2018. The study describes recent trends in the use, perceived harm, parental and peer disapproval, availability, and access associated with a variety of drugs. Other contextual features (perceived safety, physical and emotional status, etc.) are also presented. This report is divided into 6 sections. First, we outline the **Study Design and Methods** used in the implementation of the study, including a description of the population of students involved in the study. This is followed by an **Executive Summary** of the 2018 survey. This section contains a brief discussion of the study. Based on the fact that no two substances are used, acquired, or perceived in the same ways—and that significant differences exist in the data between the drug classes—we provide **Specific Results for 30 Day Use, Perception of Risk of Harm, Perception of Parental Disapproval** and **Perception of Peer Disapproval**, which are the Core Measures tracked by the federal government for Alcohol, Tobacco and Marijuana, and **Past Year Use** for all of the other drugs by combined grade level. Further information is provided on the **Risk and Protective Factors** identified in the survey, school factors, activity levels and types, perceptions of safety, and **Where Youth Obtain Drugs and Alcohol**.

Student Survey Report

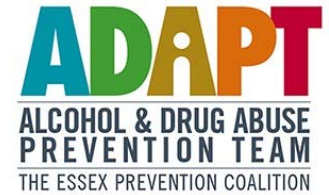


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CORE MEASURES

PAST YEAR USE-gauges the type & extent of various drug use

RISK & PROTECTIVE FACTOR-gauges environmental factors (perception of safety & support, school & activity factors,
mental health

ACCESS TO SUBSTANCES-gauges the availability of substances

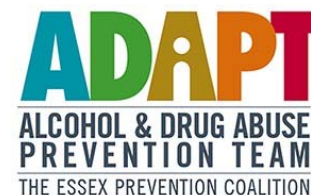
CONSEQUENCES & COMMUNICATION-students' perception of parent, school & police action both + and –

ROLE MODELING- gauges how students are seeing the adults & teens in their lives

VIEW OF “COOL”-gauges how students think they will “look” while engaging in certain behaviors

GENDER & GRADE-displayed data broken down by grade level and identified gender

Student Survey Report



The Alcohol & Drug Abuse Prevention Team contracted with Epiphany Community Services to deliver the biannual drug and alcohol survey, based on the Communities That Care Survey for a random sample of students in grades 6-12. The final analysis was completed by Epiphany Community Service, LLC. The survey was given in January of 2018. A total of surveys were completed with rejection rate/ incompleteness rate of 25.3% (756 surveys) for a total 2,227 surveys being used, providing a greater than 95% confidence level of the results.

Surveys were rejected when:

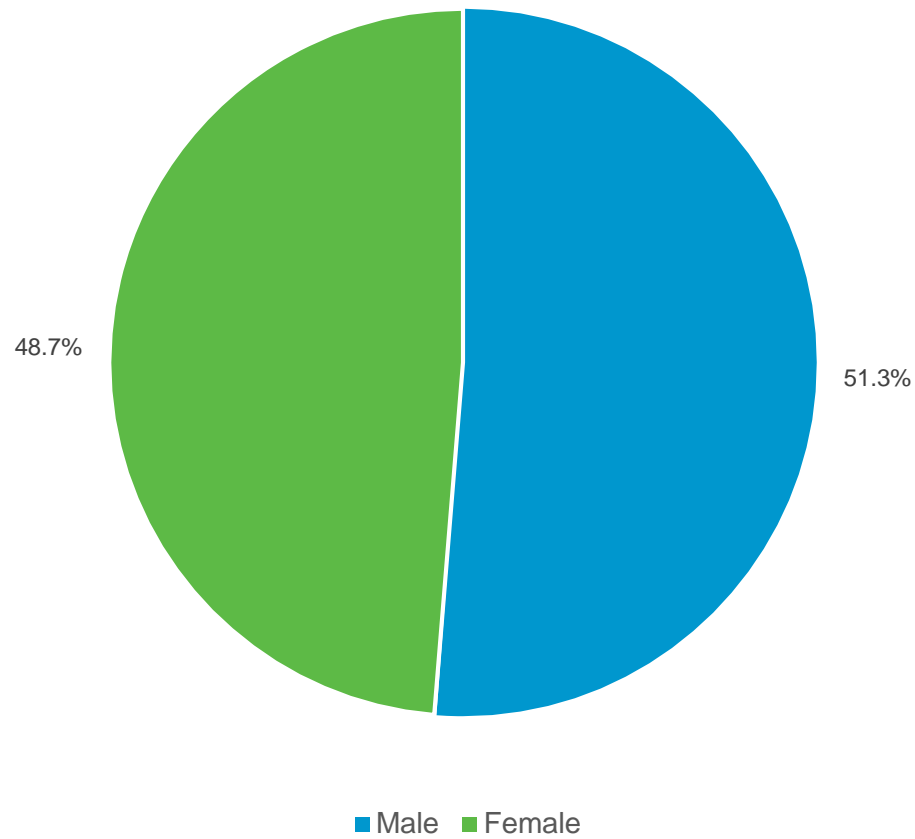
1. The student answered questions inconsistently, saying they did not use in the past year but did use in the last 30 days;
2. The student answered they took the “fake” drug;
3. The student answered they took all of the drugs all of the time at the highest level possible
4. Surveys taken outside the time of administration
5. Surveys were considered incomplete if any questions were unanswered.

Because of the size of the 2018 survey (N=2,227, representing a total population of 3,367 in grades 6-12, the margin of error for all respondents is estimated to be approximately 1.2% with a 95% confidence interval. Such a confidence interval means that for any particular statistic reported there is a 95% probability that the true value falls in a range from -1.2 to + 1.2 around the value. For example, if 75% of respondents endorse a particular item, then the reader can interpret this to mean there is a 95% chance the true score falls in the range of 73.8% to 76.2%. The confidence interval decreases along and the margin of error increases as the grades are broken down. The grade and gender breakdown is depicted in the following table.

6 th Male	6 th Female	7 th Male	7 th Female	8 th Male	8 th Female	9 th Male	9 th Female	10 th Male	10 th Female	11 th Male	11 th Female	12 th Male	12 th Female
187	205	214	193	209	170	134	150	149	141	111	106	130	115

Student Survey Report

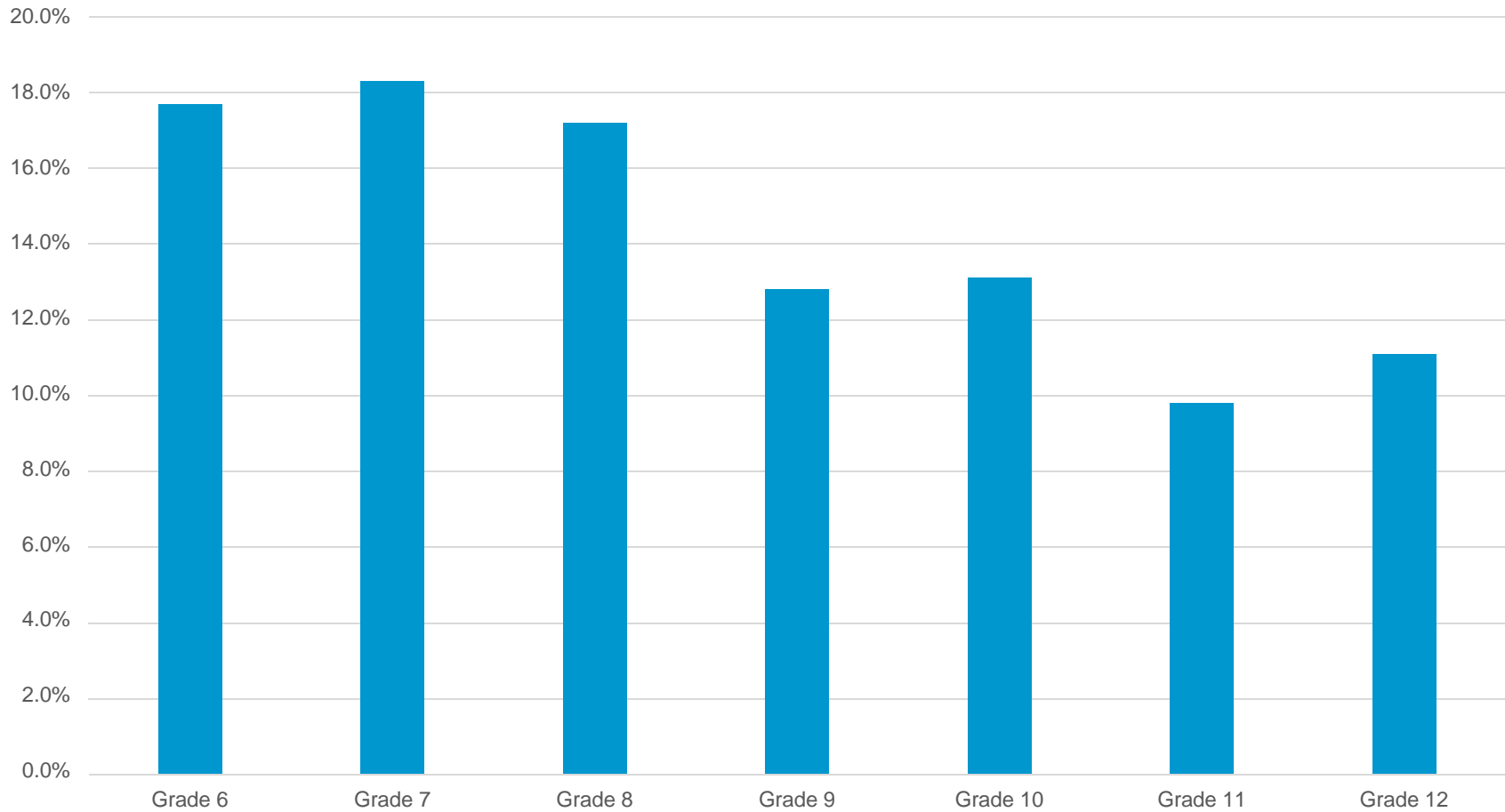
Gender



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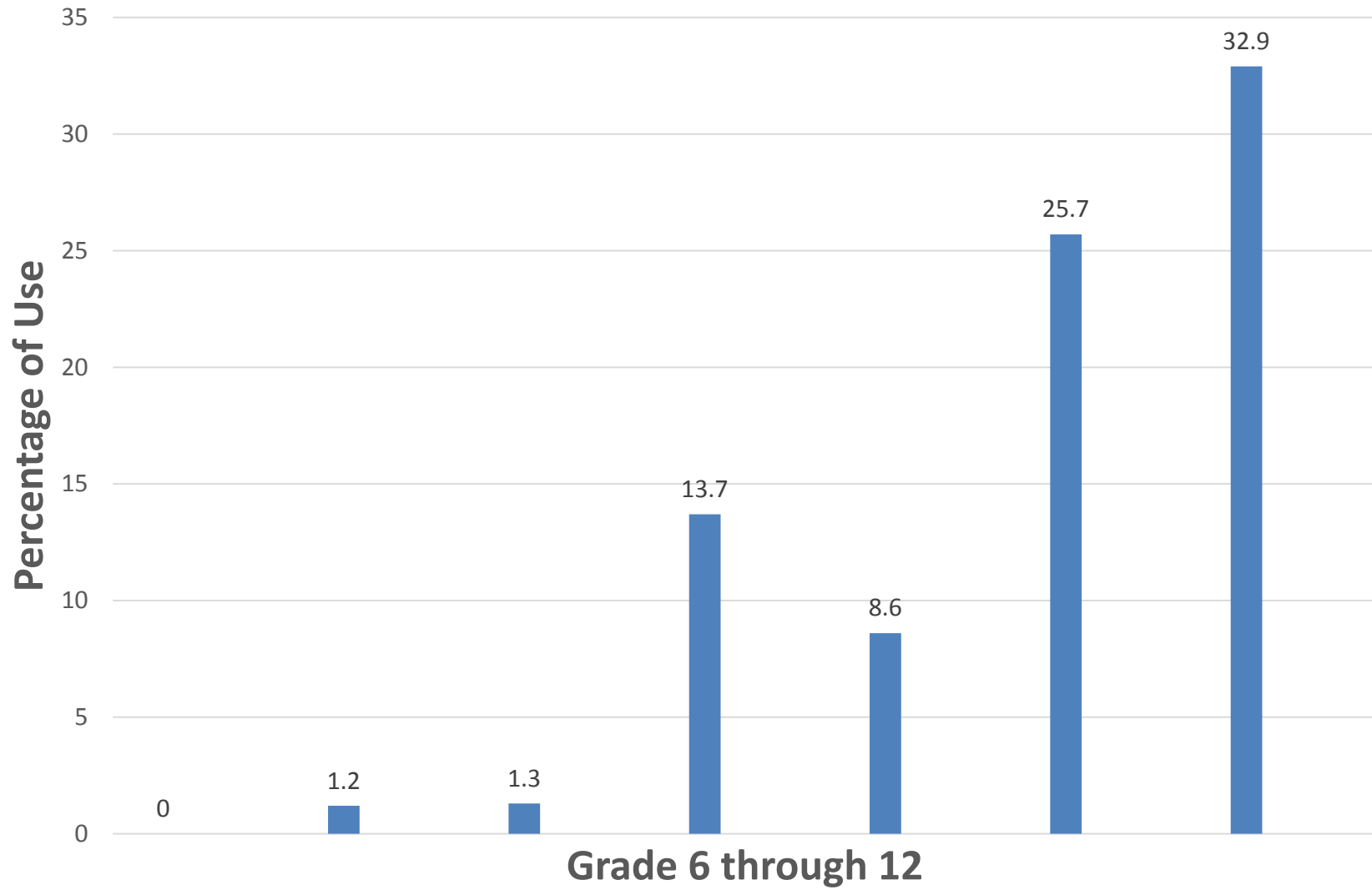


Grade



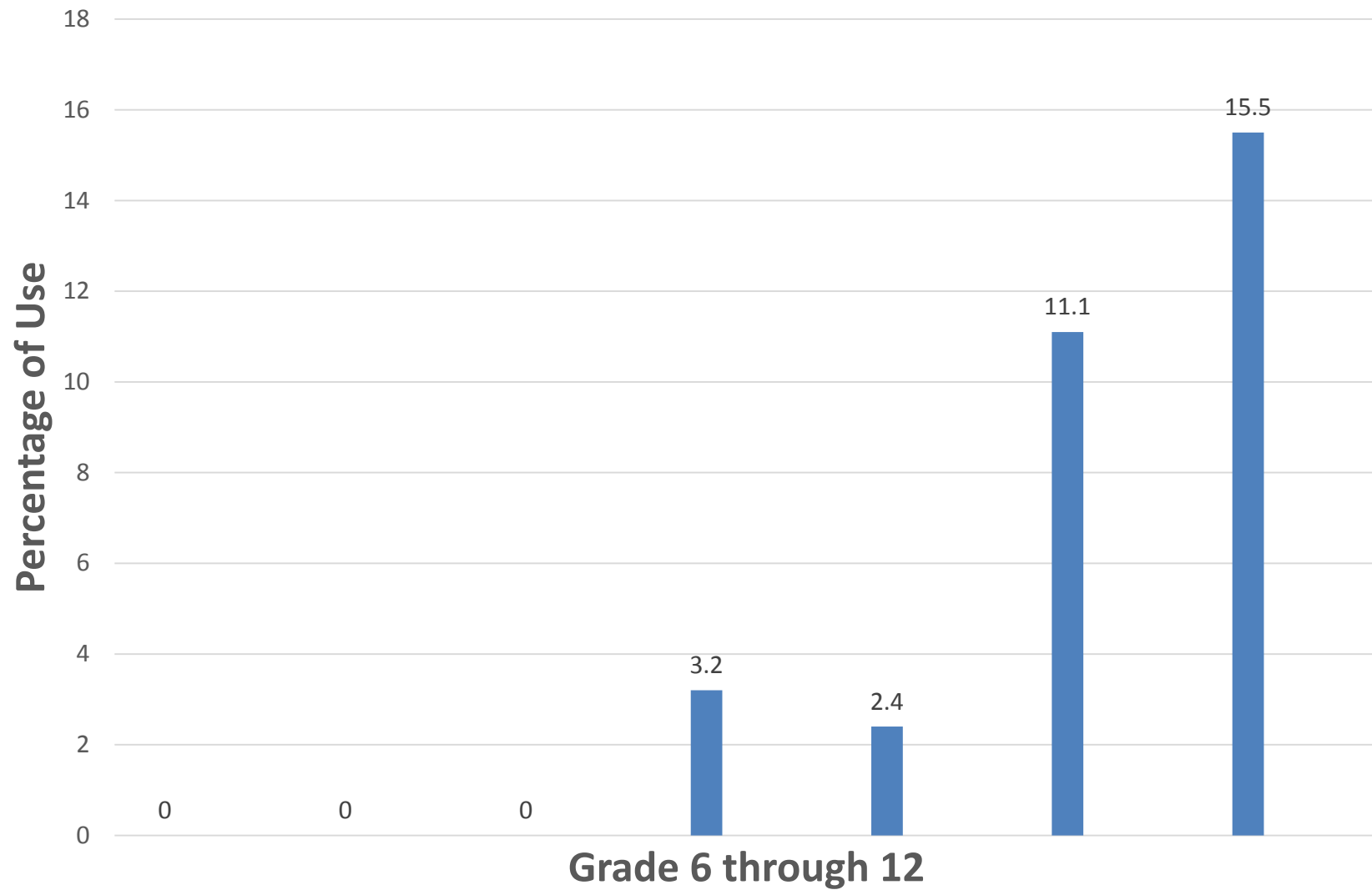


Past 30 Day Alcohol Use



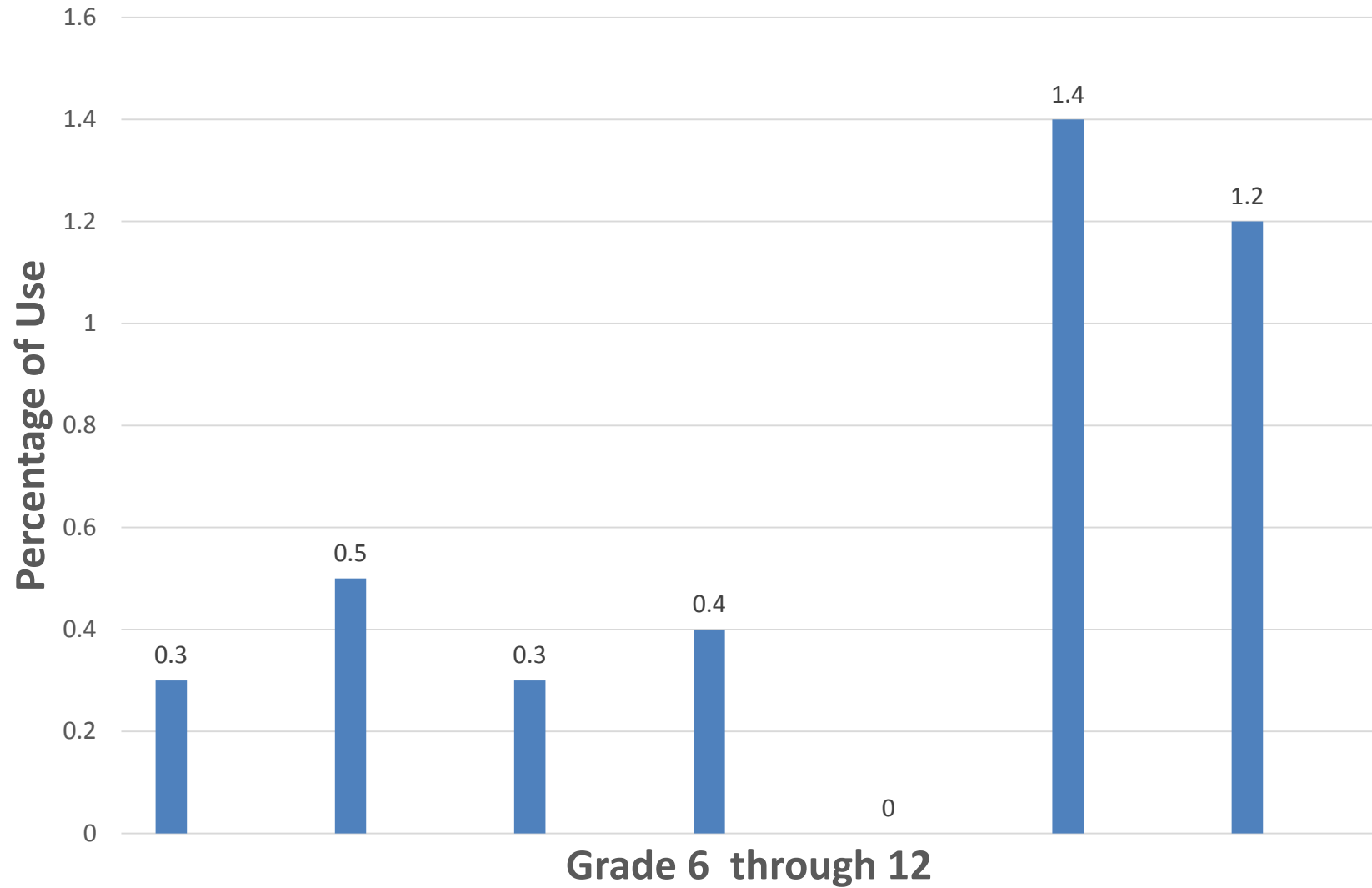


Past 30 Day Marijuana/Hashish Use





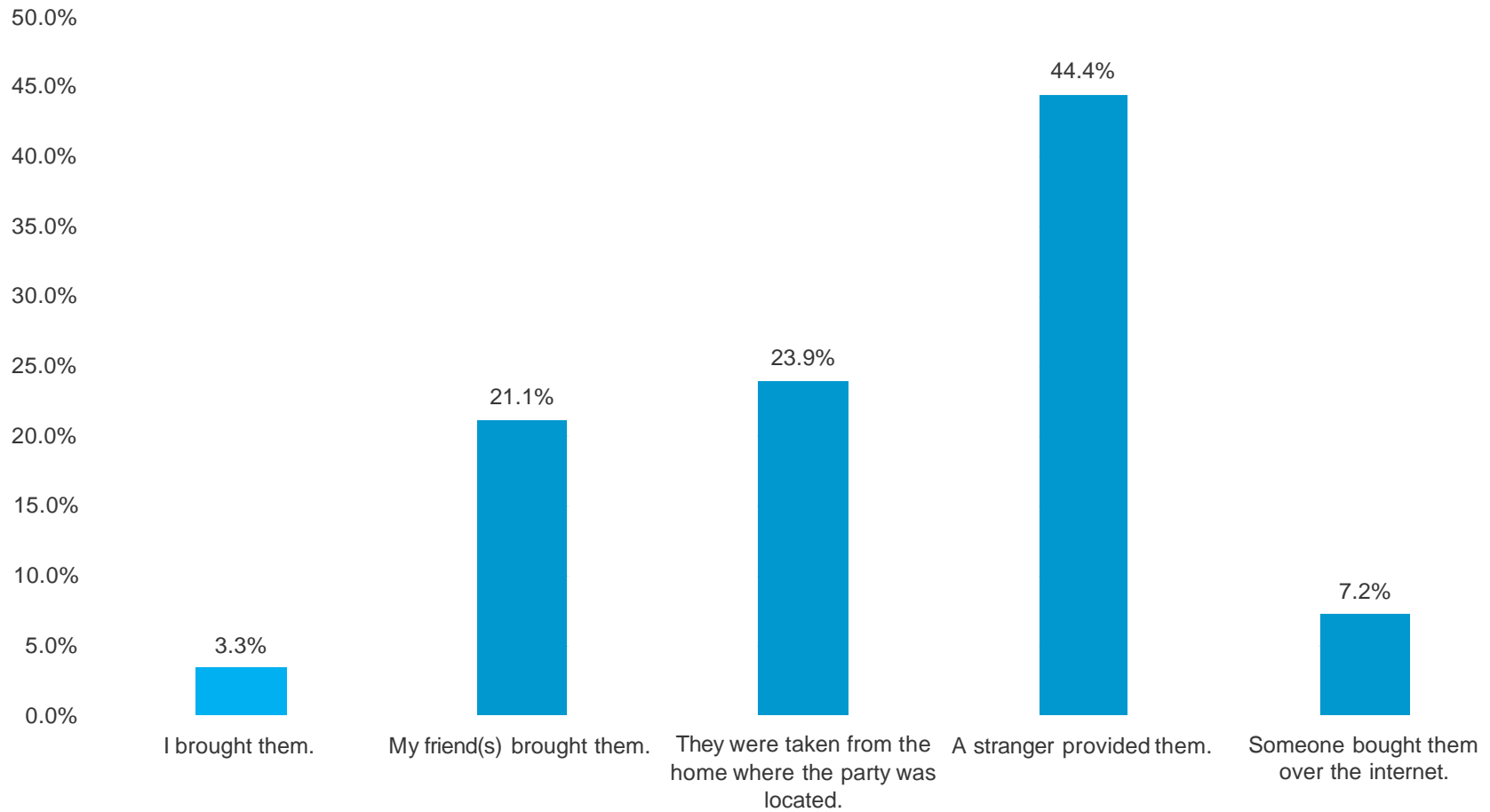
Past 30 Day Prescription Use



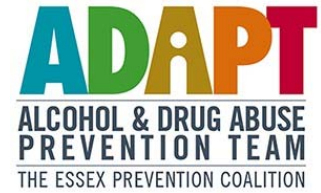
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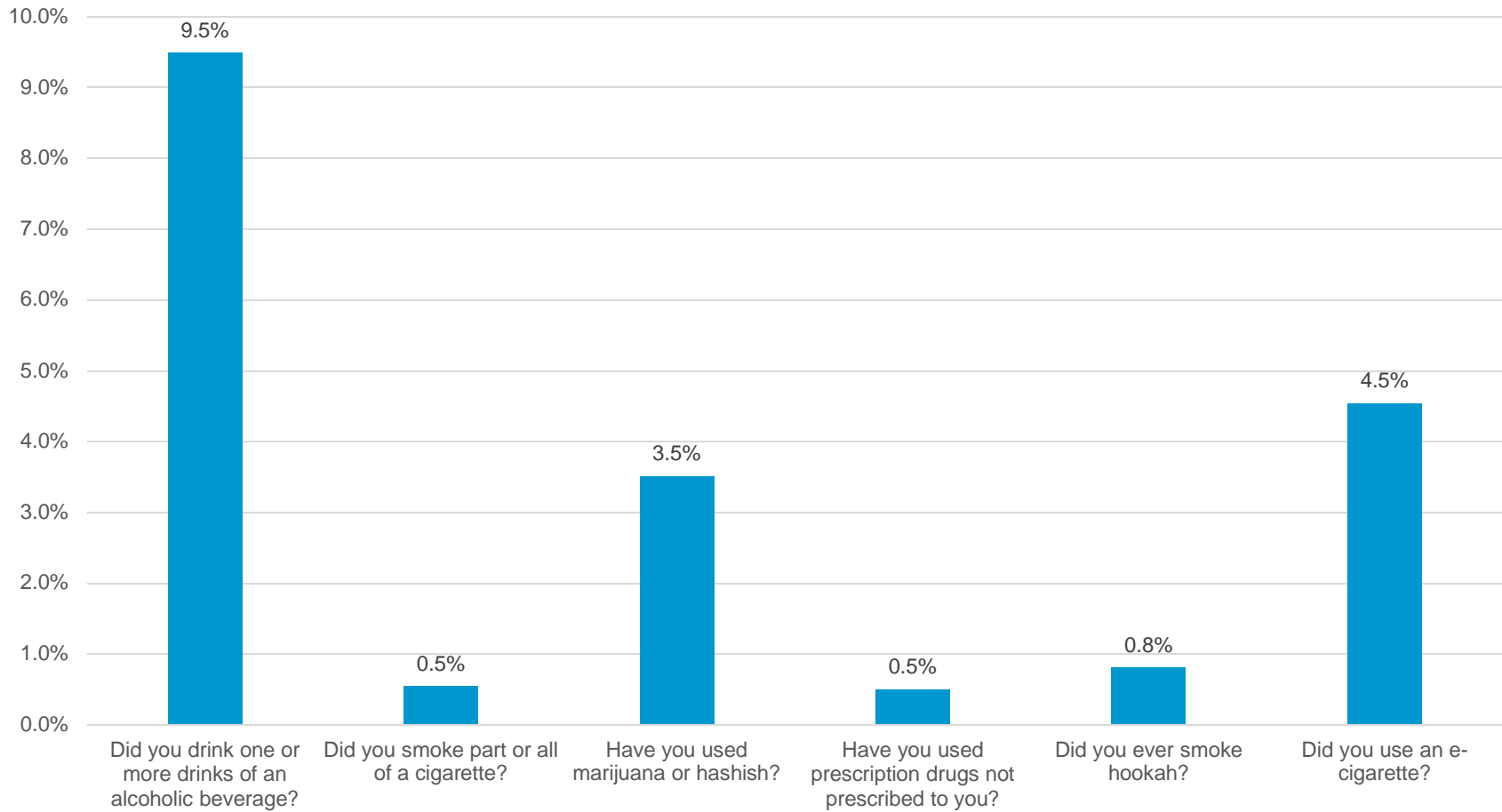
If prescription drugs were available at a party, how were they supplied?



Student Survey Report

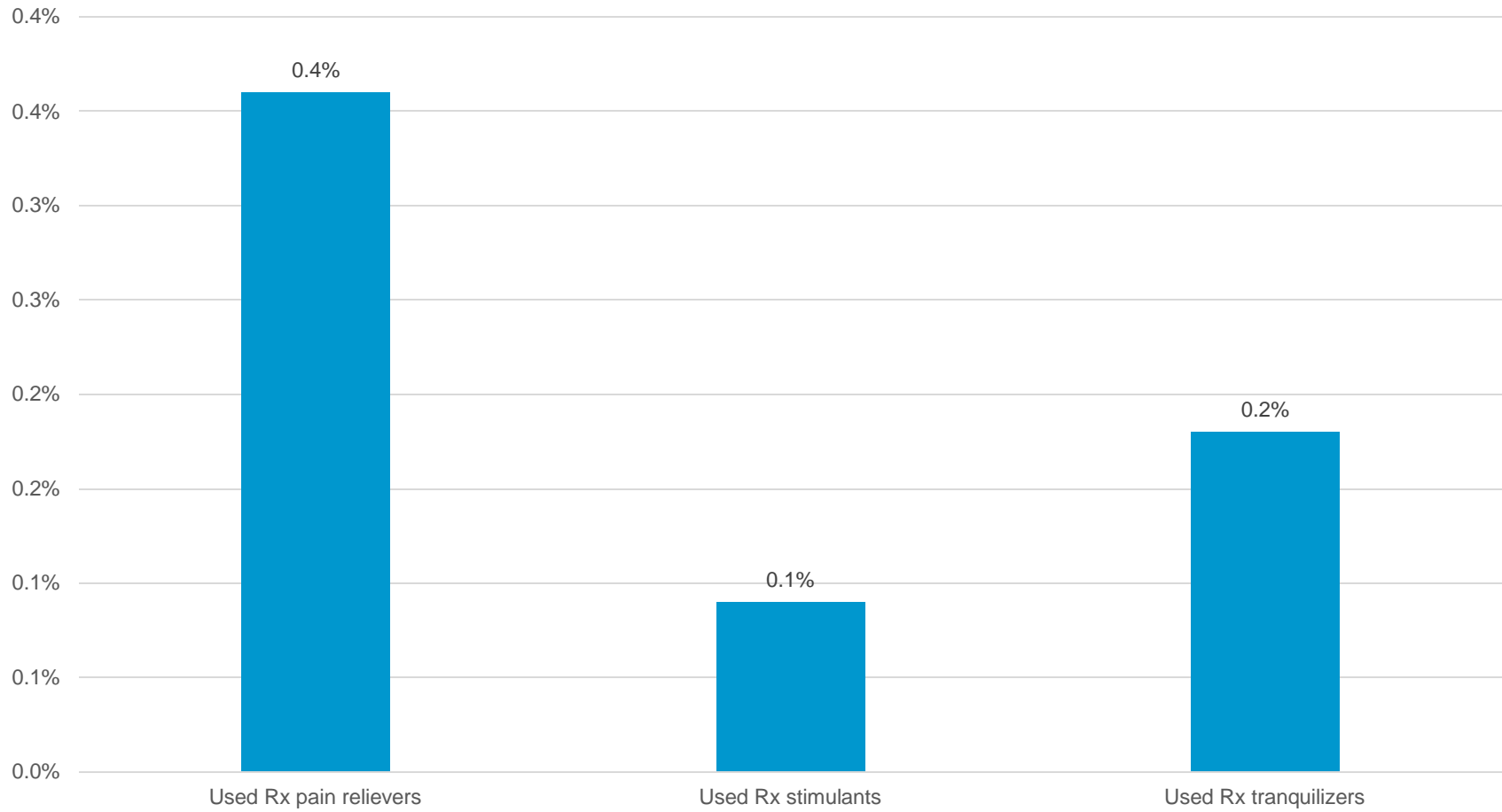


30 Day Use

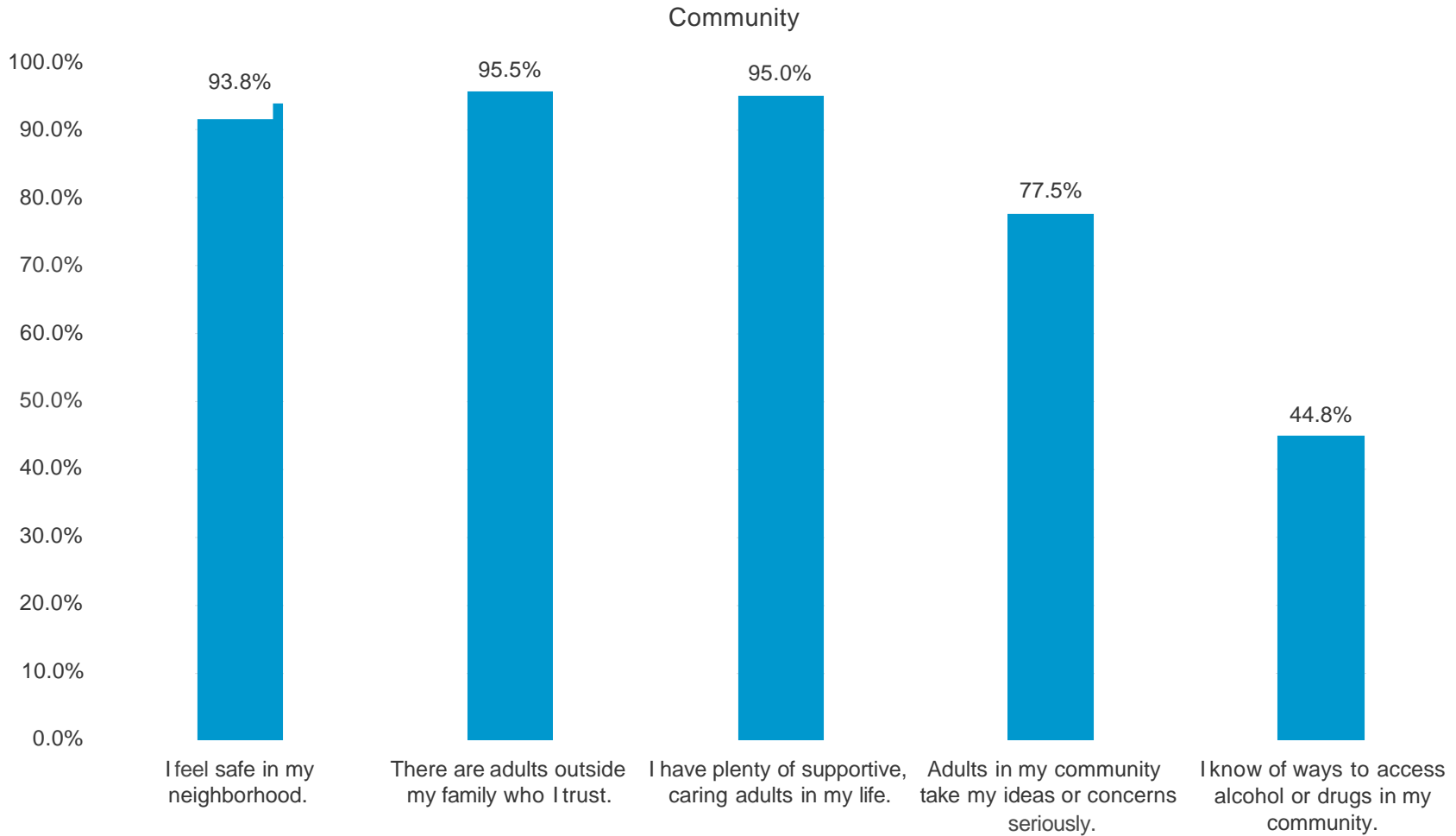
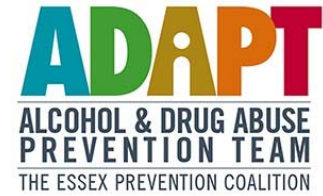


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30 Day Use



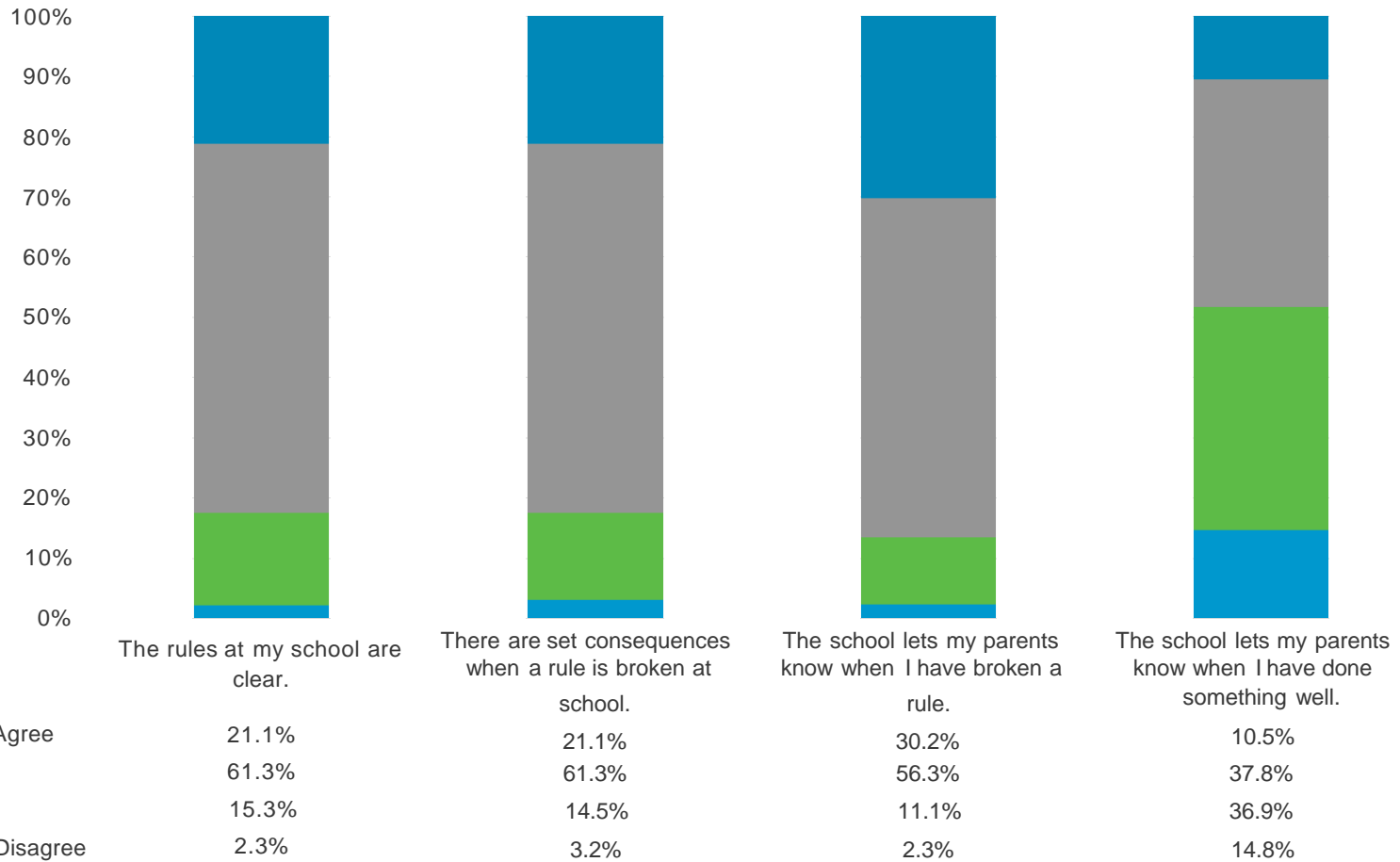
Student Survey Report



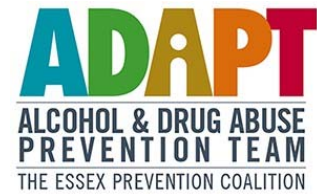
Student Survey Report



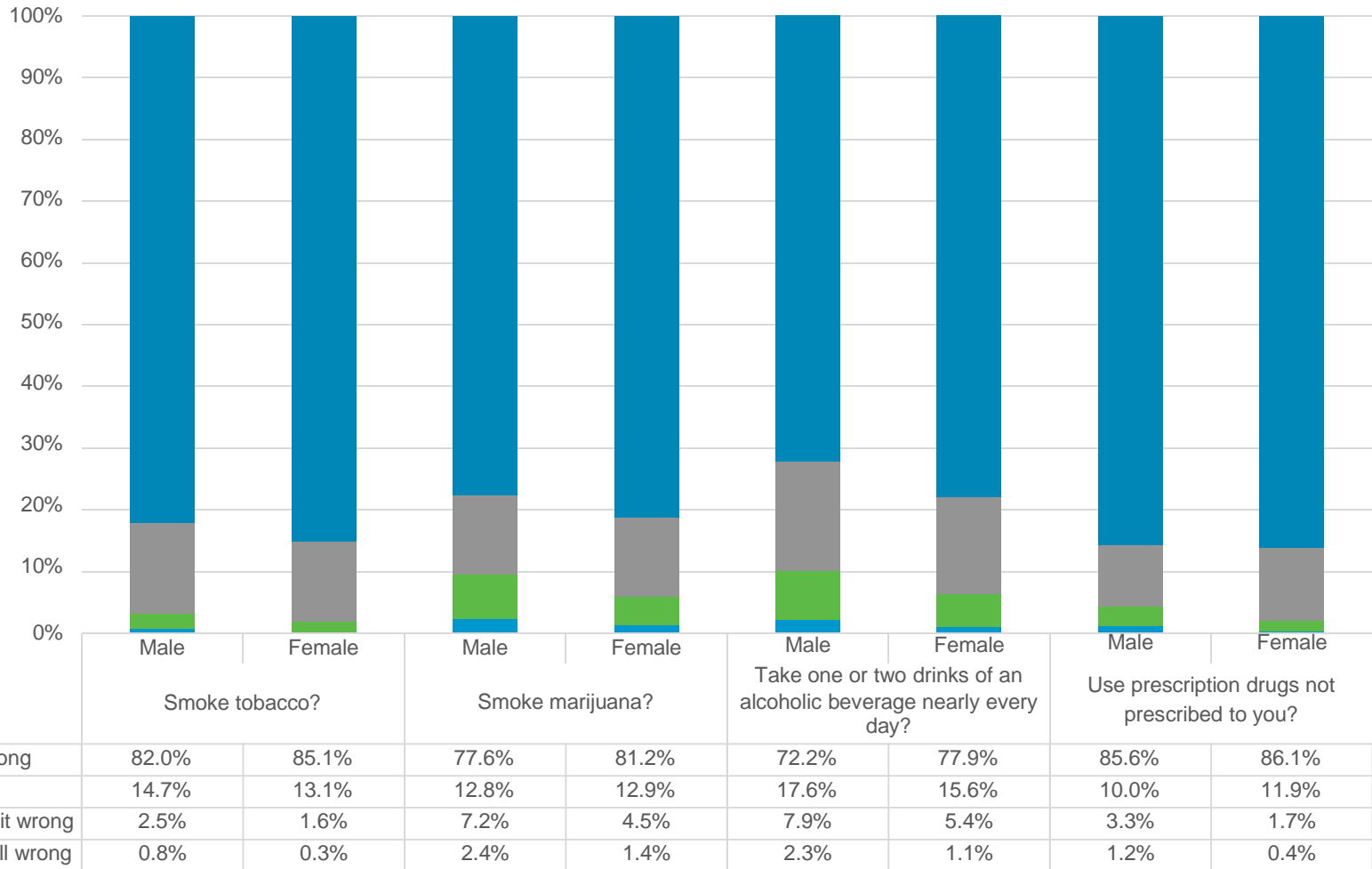
School



Student Survey Report



How wrong do your parents feel it would be for you to:





Based on the Respondents Responses:

MOST STUDENTS IN LIVINGSTON DO NOT USE DRUGS OR ALCOHOL

ALCOHOL IS THE #1 DRUG OF CHOICE FOLLOWED BY E-CIGARETTES AND MARIJUANA

OLDER STUDENTS ARE MORE LIKELY TO USE THAN YOUNGER STUDENTS AND ALSO HAVE A LOWER PERCEPTION OF HARM

STUDENTS PERCEIVE ALCOHOL TO BE THE EASIEST TO OBTAIN FOLLOWED BY E-CIGARETTES AND Rx DRUGS

STUDENTS PERCEIVE THE MOST PARENTAL DISAPPROVAL FOR TOBACCO AND THE LEAST PARENTAL DISAPPROVAL FOR ALCOHOL

FEMALES HAVE SLIGHTLY HIGHER RATE OF USE THAN MALES & HIGHER PERCEPTION OF HARM

Student Survey Report



- **Limitations**

- It is important to note that survey results are based on the responses of students who were in attendance the day the survey was administered as well as the proportion of respondents to each individual question. Since some students were not present and some did not answer every question on the survey, not every question was based on the same number of respondents.

- **It is also important to note that self-reported is sometimes criticized for being inaccurate; especially when the target population is youth or the topic under question is illicit drug use behavior. Self-reports can be influenced by a variety of factors, including lapses in memory, the desire to appear a certain way (either “better” or “worse than one’s actual behavior might indicate), and the ability to comprehend the question. The most objective comparison data, and low self-reported use of a fictitious drug suggest that most self-reported behaviors on school-based surveys are likely valid but some underreporting may occur.”** While self-reports have their weaknesses, they are perhaps one of the best ways to determine many of the things we are seeking in this survey, like age of onset, perceptions of harm, and perceptions of availability. “Survey research can provide a more thorough profile of drug use and abuse among a broader cross section of the population; it can also provide a much greater range of information for use in designing intervention strategies.”¹

Format of the Report

- The report is laid out in a graphical format depicting use for all grades, broken down by grade and gender for core measures of substance using behavior. The report is broken down into the key categories of the four core measures, past year use, access, risk factors protective factors, and family.



The full ADAPT Survey results will be released on Tuesday, April 3, 2018 by 1:00 p.m. and can be found here:

<https://www.livingston.org/Page/35011>