

2016 Profiles of Student Life: *Attitudes & Behaviors Study*

Health & Human Services Council

March 23, 2016


Thank You!

- to The Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation and Mid State Health Network for financial support.
- to the superintendents who pledged their support for the survey.
- to the school administrators and technical support staff at the 11 schools who assisted us with the implementation.

Attitudes & Behaviors Survey

- Developed by the Search Institute, Minneapolis, Minn.
- Based on 40 Positive Character Traits (also known as Assets) that all teens should possess
- Assesses 24 Risk-Taking Behaviors
- The Legacy Center has conducted the study three times in Midland County (2006/2011/2016)

Why repeat the survey?

- Because our kids change and so do the challenges they face. For example:
 - Explosion of social media and online entertainment
 - Increase in e-Cigarette use among youth
 - Concerns about student safety and school security
 - Surge in anxiety and depression levels
 - Rise in academic expectations
 - Growth in opiate use among our young adult population (24-35 years)
 - Normalization of marijuana =  Perception of Risk

Demographics

- All Midland County public schools participated, except Midland Academy.
- 87.6% participation rate vs. 86% and 81% in 2011 and 2006, respectively
- Participants (Public School 6th-12th graders)
 - 5698 total sample size
 - 2782 female
 - 2876 male

* Note: Male/Female numbers do not add up to “Total Sample” figure due to missing information on individual surveys. In addition, the total sample size does not equal countywide enrollment figures due to the disqualification of surveys for missing data (>40 questions), pattern filling and other reasons.

Developmental Assets

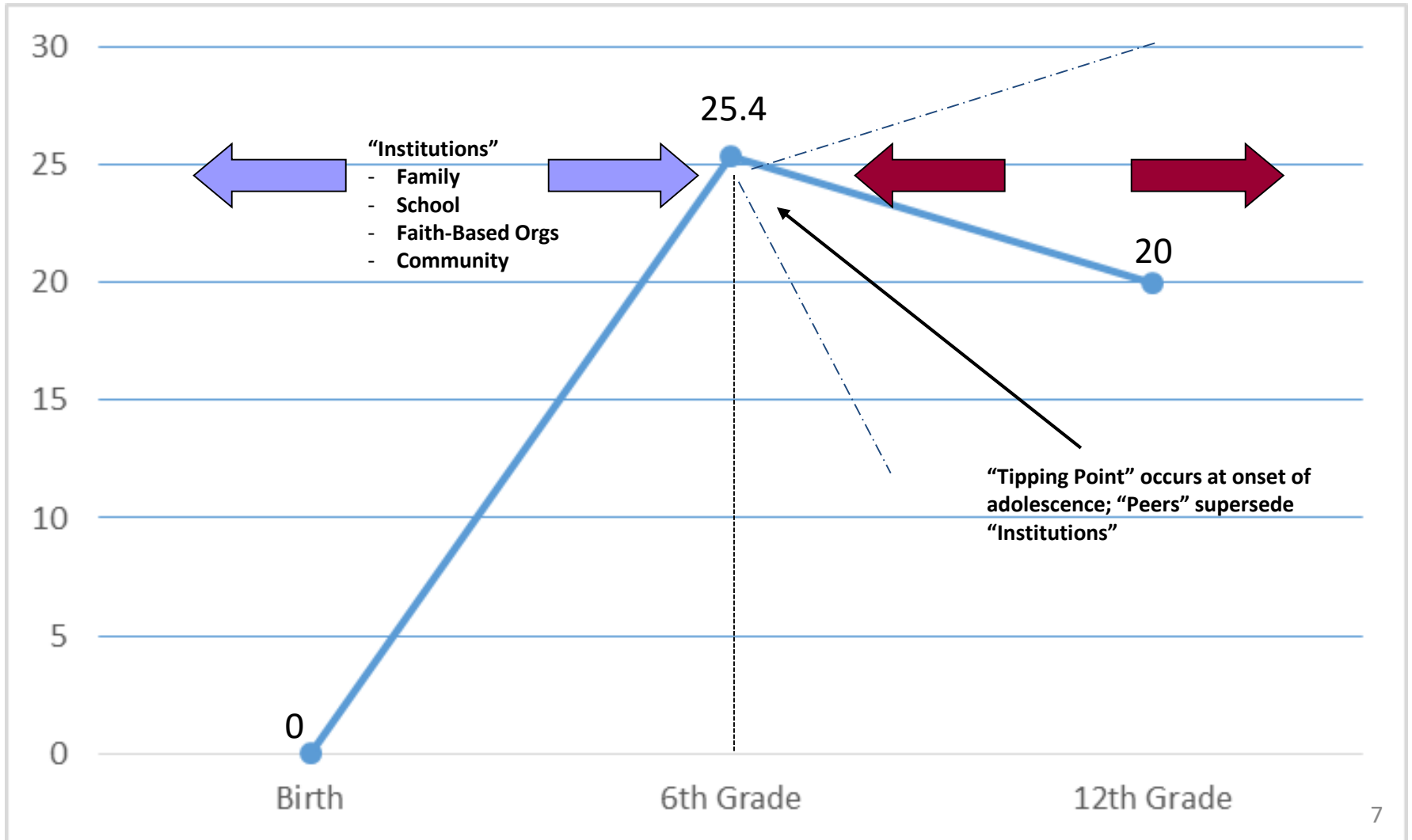
20 External Assets (Relations with others)

- Support
- Empowerment
- Boundaries & Expectations
- Constructive Use of Time

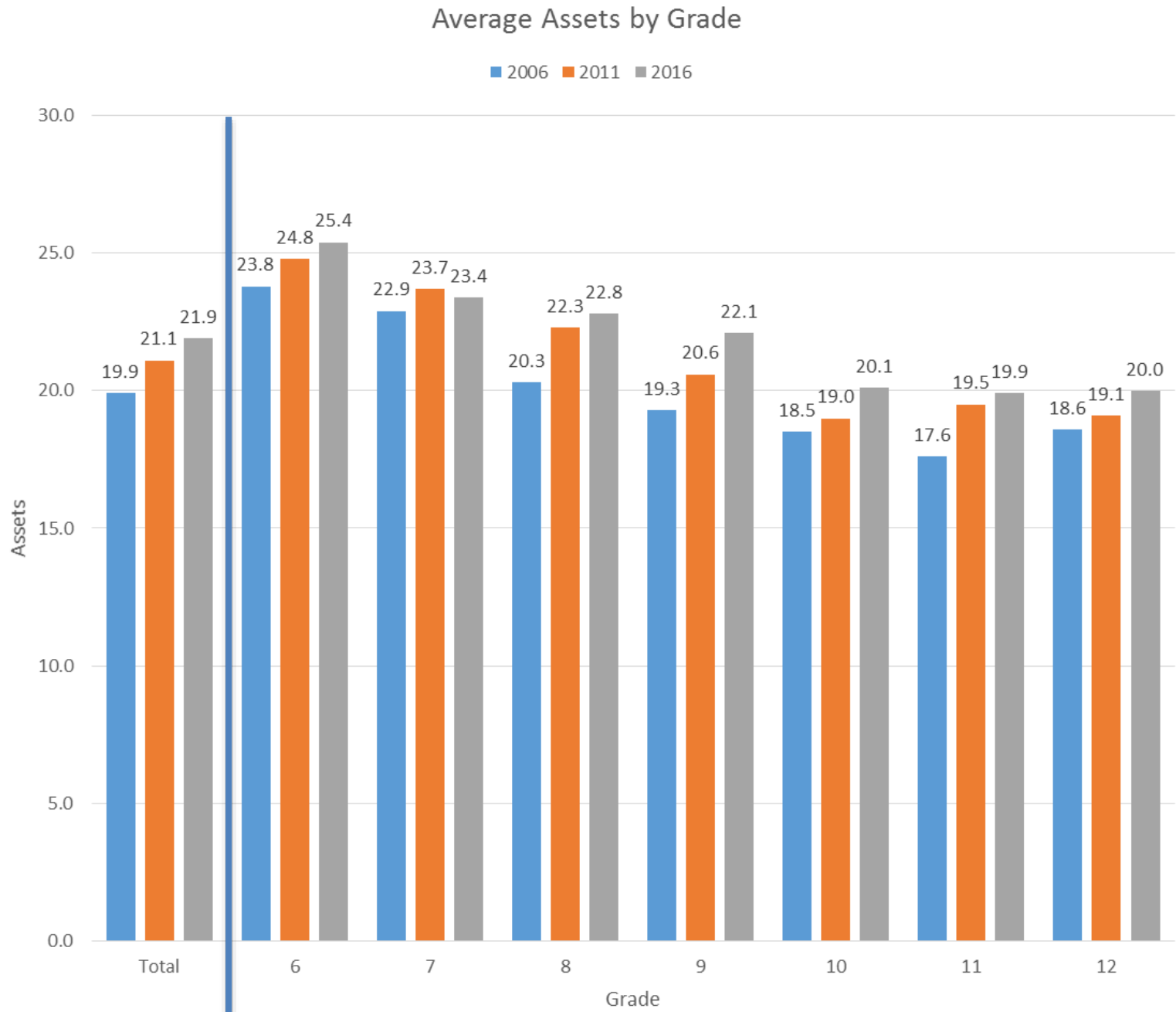
20 Internal Assets (Intrinsic Traits)

- Commitment to Learning
- Positive Values
- Social Competencies
- Positive Identity

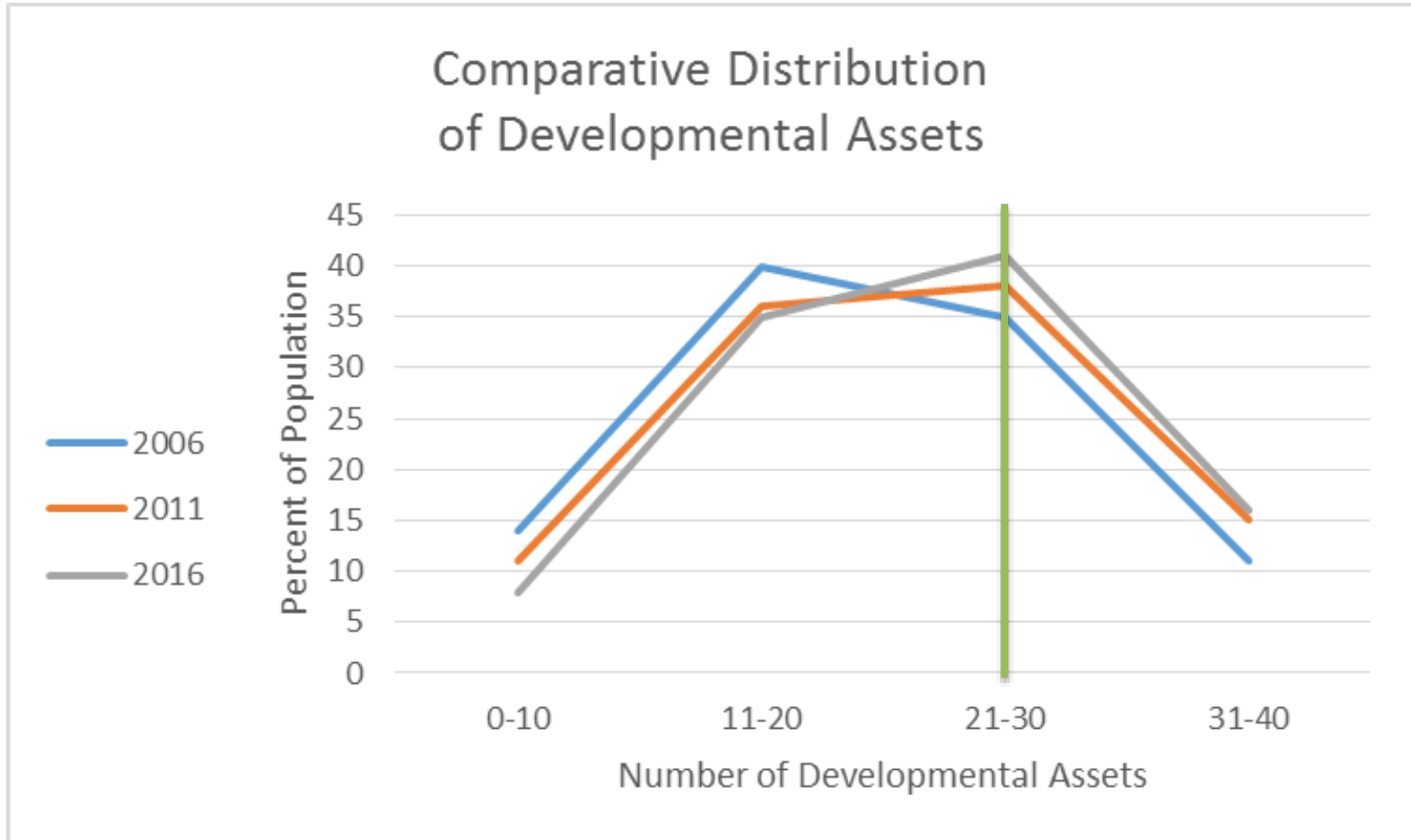
Assets Over Time



Average Assets by Grade



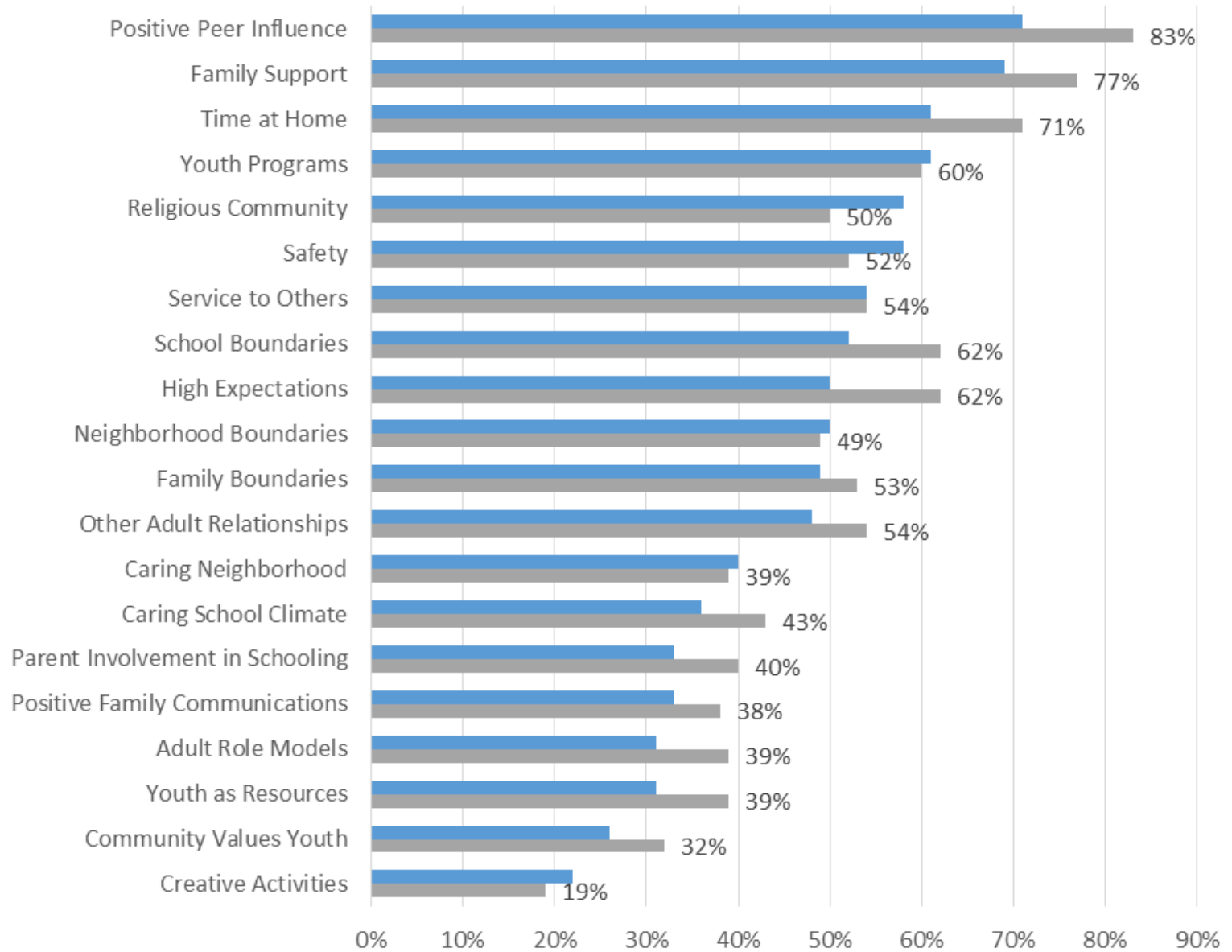
Comparative Distribution



External Comparison 2006/2016

External Assets - Comparison

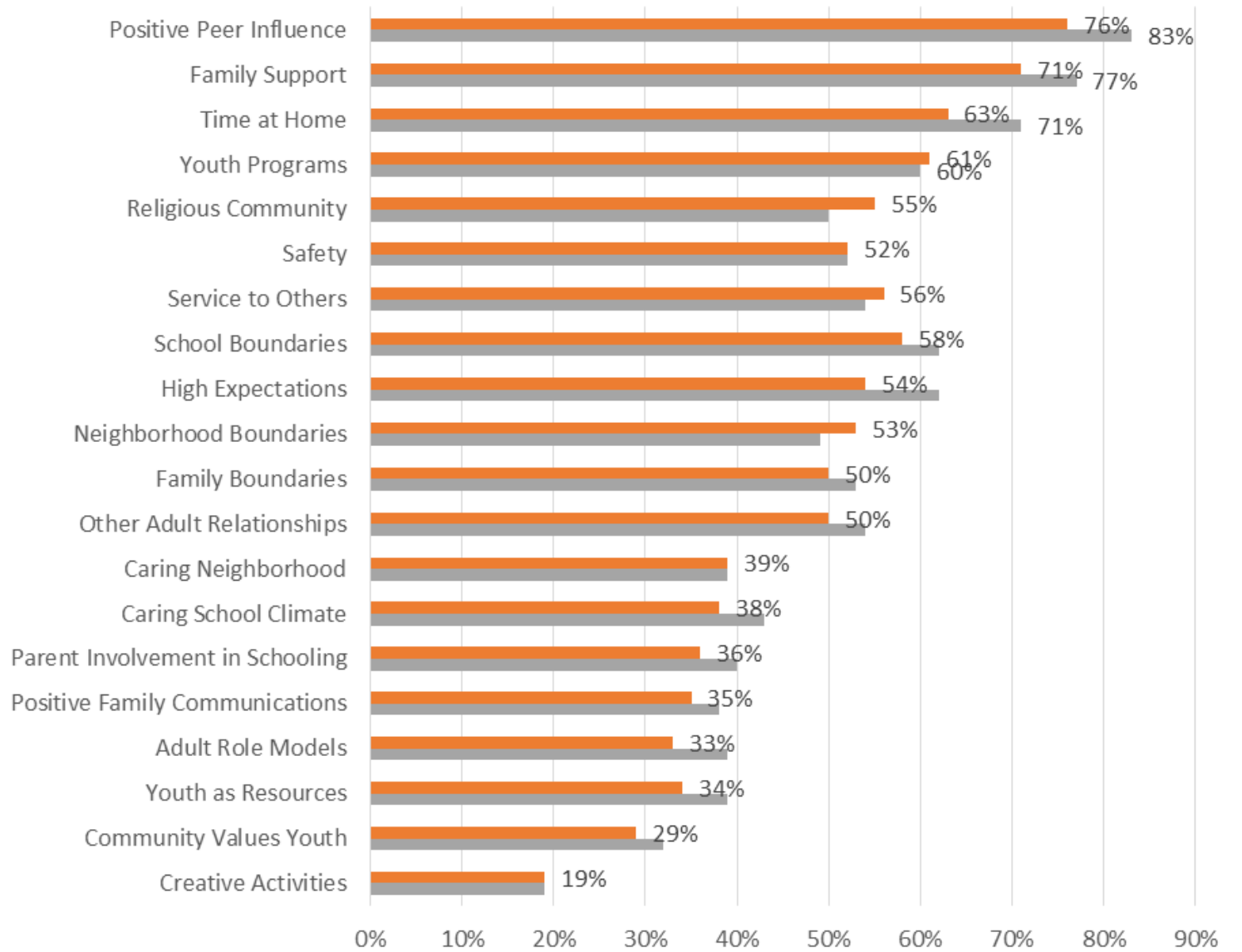
■ 2006 ■ 2016



External Comparison 2011/2016

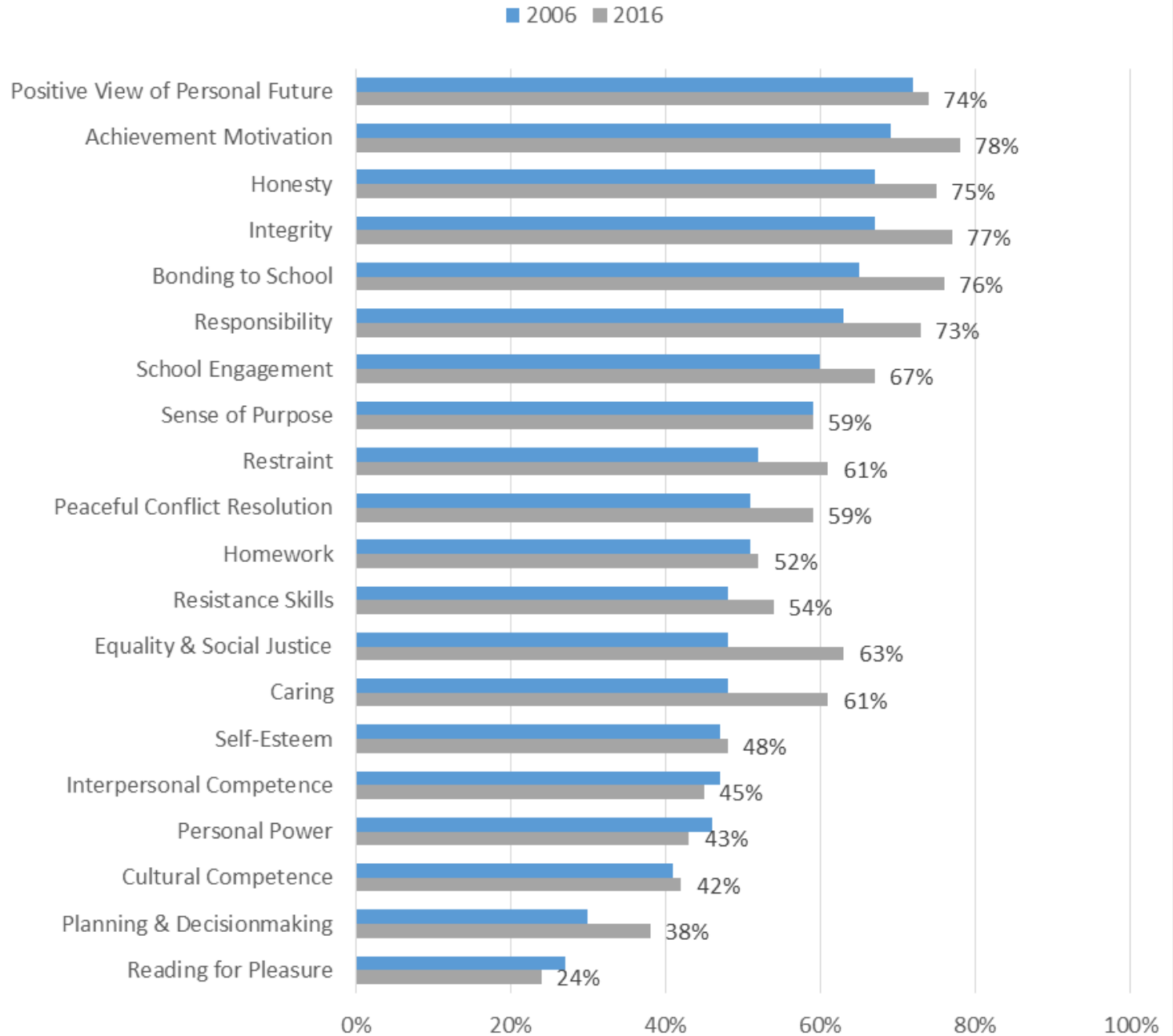
External Assets - Comparison

2011 2016



Internal Comparison 2006/2016

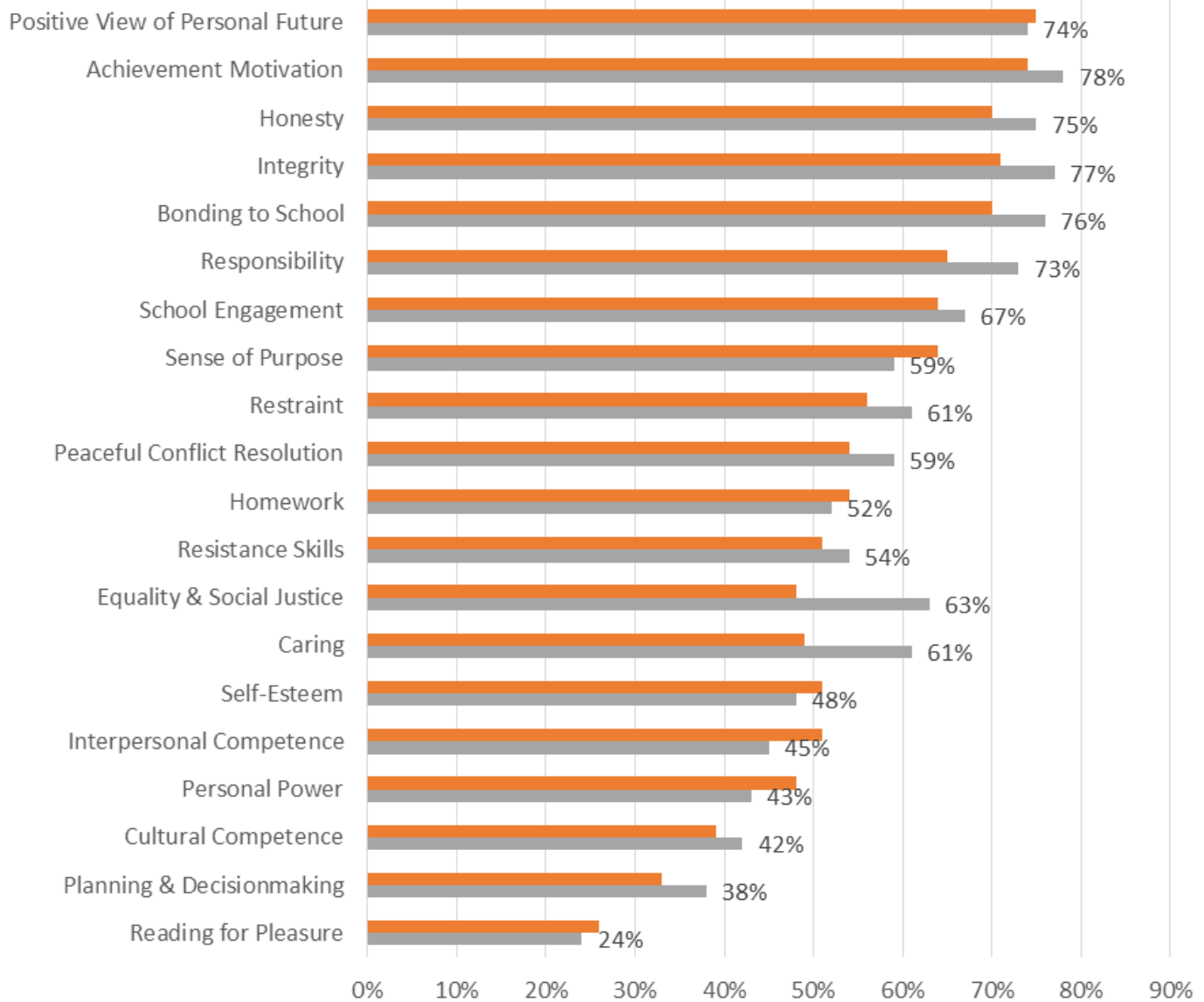
Internal Assets - Comparison



Internal Comparison 2011/2016

Internal Assets - Comparison

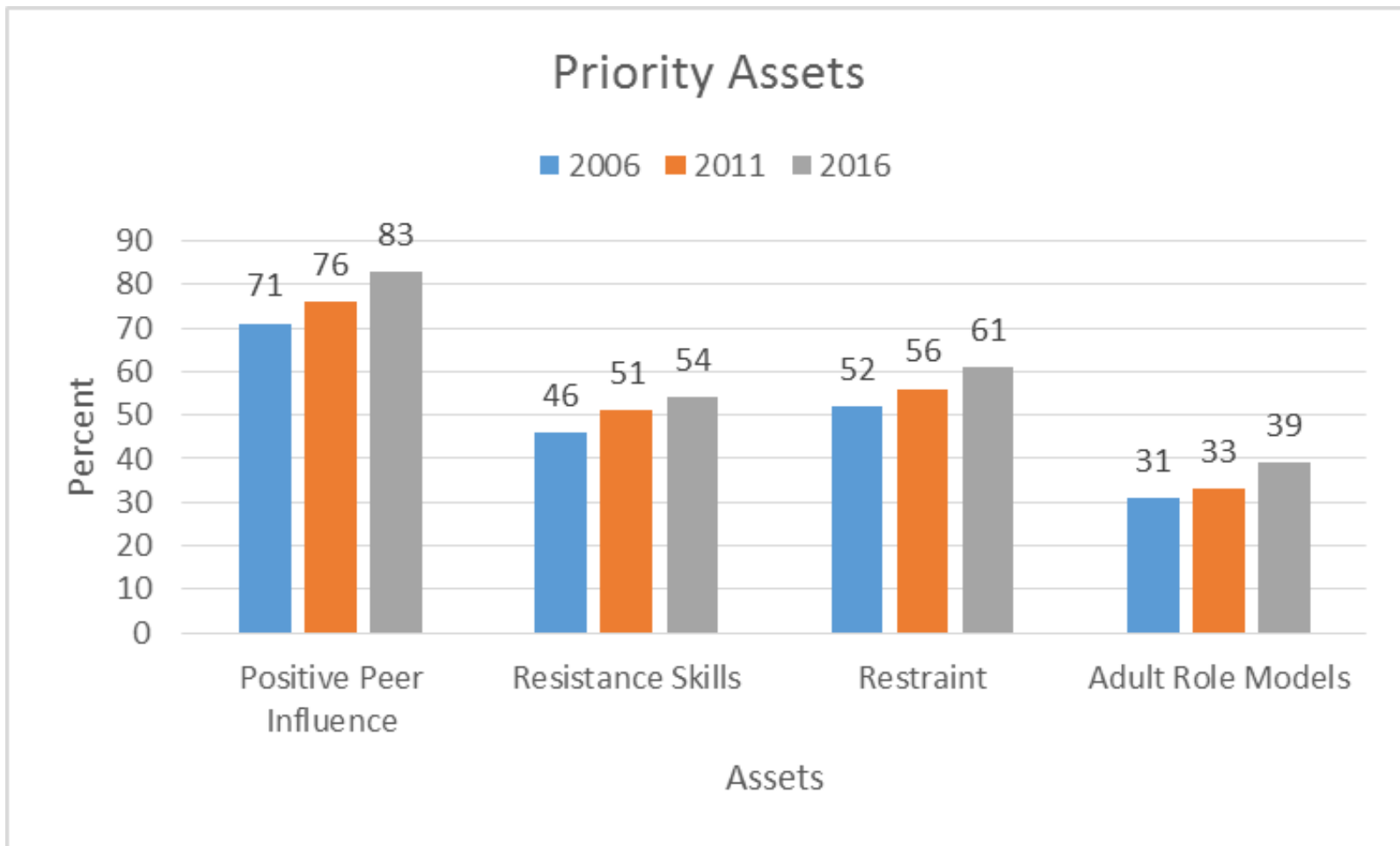
2011 2016



2011 Regression Analysis

- In 2011, we conducted a regression analysis on the survey results.
- This analysis produced a list of “Priority” Assets that positively impact the risk-taking behaviors exhibited by our youth.
- Those Priority Assets include
 - **Positive Peer Influence** – Young person’s best friends model responsible behavior
 - **Restraint** – Young person believes it is important not to be sexually active or to use alcohol or other drugs
 - **Resistance Skills** – Young person can resist negative peer pressure and dangerous situations
 - **Adult Role Models** – Parent(s) and other adults model positive, responsible behavior
- These are the Assets our community has been trying to instill in our youth over the past five years.

2011 Priority Assets



2016 Regression Analysis

- We conducted a regression analysis on the recent survey results
- The regression resulted in a slightly modified list of “Priority” Assets
 - Positive Peer Influence
 - Restraint
 - Resistance Skills
 - ***Achievement Motivation: Young person is motivated to do well in school.***
 - Adult Role Models

“Significant” Improvement

- External assets with an increase of 5 percentage points or more vs 2011
 - Family Support [71% → 77%]
 - Caring School Climate 38% → 43%]
 - Youth as Resources [34% → 39%]
 - School Boundaries [58% → 62%]
 - **Adult Role Models [33% → 39%]**
 - **Positive Peer Influence [76% → 83%]**
 - High Expectations [54% → 62%]
 - Time at Home [63% → 71%]

“Significant” Improvement

- Internal Assets with an increase of 5 percentage points or more vs 2011

- Bonding to School [70% → 76%]

- Caring [49 → 61%]

- Equality & Social Justice [48% → 63%]

- Integrity [71% → 77%]

- Honesty [70% → 75%]

- **Responsibility [65% → 73]**

- **Restraint [56% → 61%]**

- Planning & Decision-Making [33% → 38%]

- Peaceful Conflict Resolution [54% → 59%]

*Asset Category:
Positive Values*

“Significant” Decreases

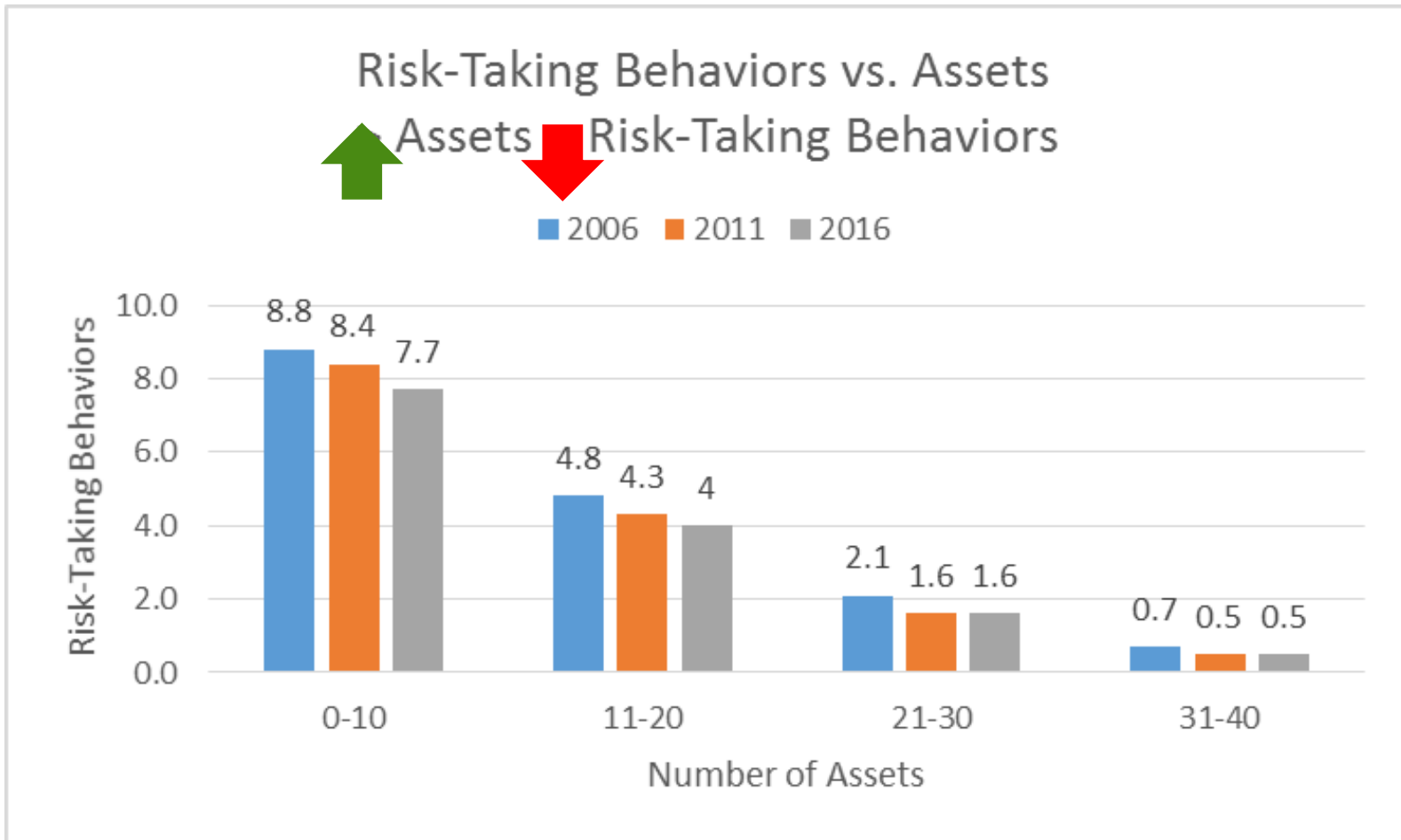
- Only 3 Assets have decreased by 5 percentage points or more vs 2011
 - Religious Community [55% → 50%]
 - Sense of Purpose [64% → 59%]
 - Interpersonal Competence [51% → 45%]

Risk-Taking Behaviors

Developmental Assets have the power to protect our youth from engaging in the following 24 risk-taking behaviors:

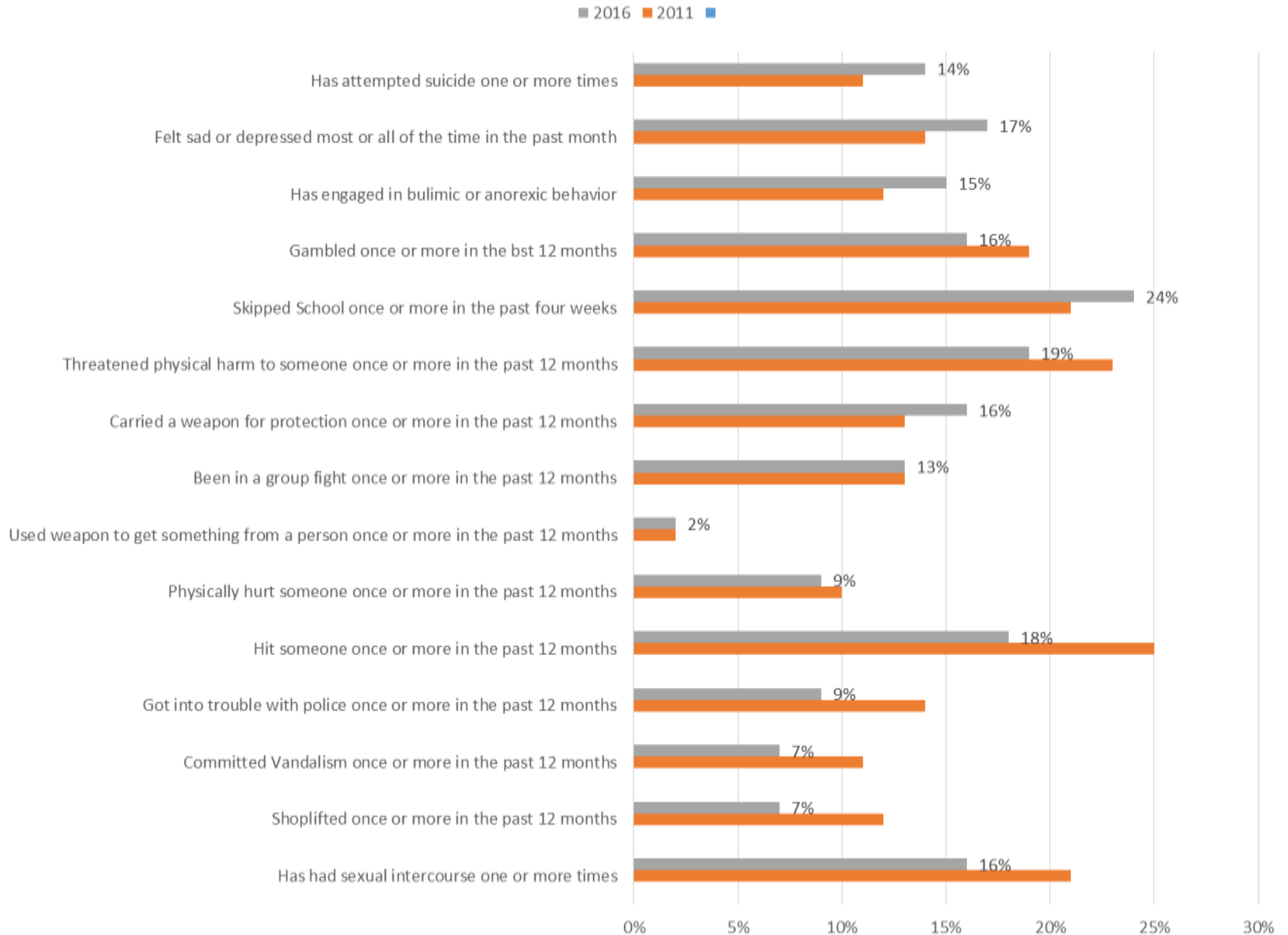
- **Alcohol Use**
- **Binge Drinking**
- **Marijuana Use**
- **Smokeless Tobacco Use**
- **Illegal Drug Use**
- **Driving While Drinking**
- Early Sexual Intercourse
- Vandalism
- **Inhalant Use**
- **Smoking**
- Shoplifting
- Using a Weapon
- Eating Disorders
- Skipping School
- Gambling
- Depression
- Getting into Trouble
- Hitting Another Person
- Hurting Another Person
- Fighting in Groups
- Carrying a Weapon for Protection
- Threatening to Cause Physical Harm
- Attempting Suicide
- **Riding with an Impaired Driver**

Risk-Taking vs. Assets



Risk-Taking Behaviors

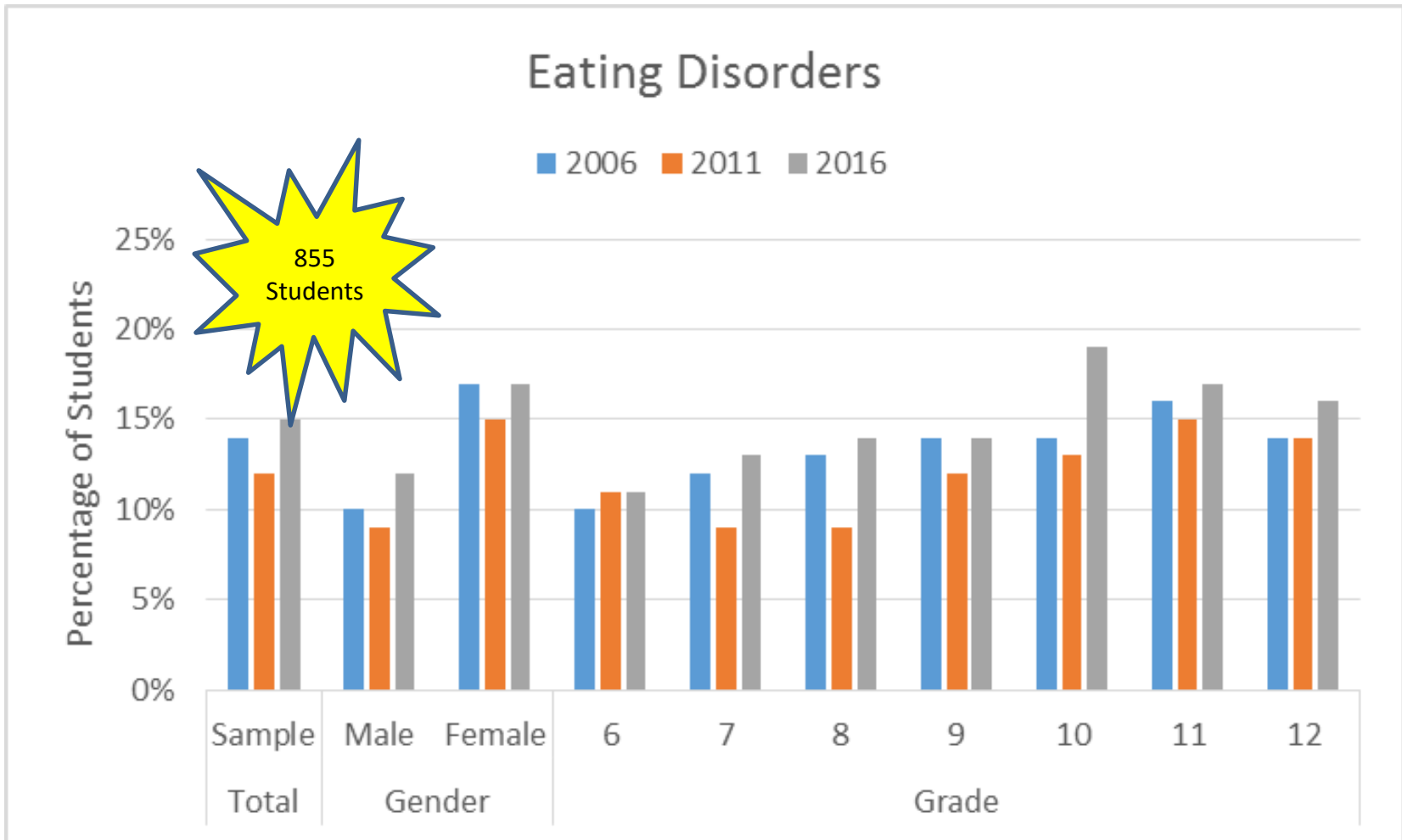
Other Risk-Taking Behaviors



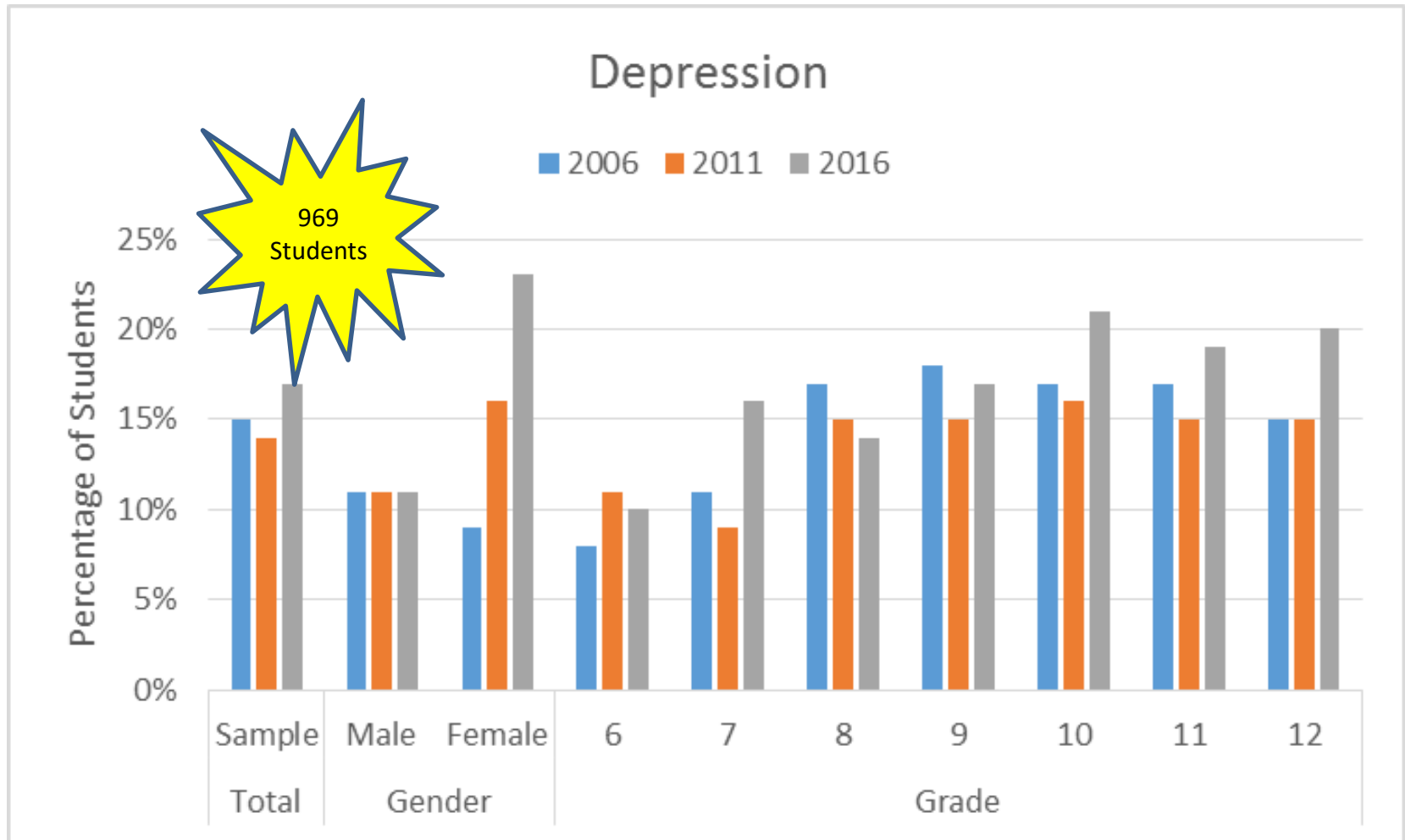
Areas of Concern

- The following Risk-Taking Behaviors have increased
 - Eating Disorders [12% → 15%]
 - Depression [14% → 17%]
 - Suicide Attempts [11% → 14%]
- Assets related to *Positive Identity* decreased
 - Personal Power [48% → 43%]
 - Self-Esteem [52% → 48%]
 - Sense of Purpose [64% → 59%]
 - Positive View of Personal Future [75% → 74%]

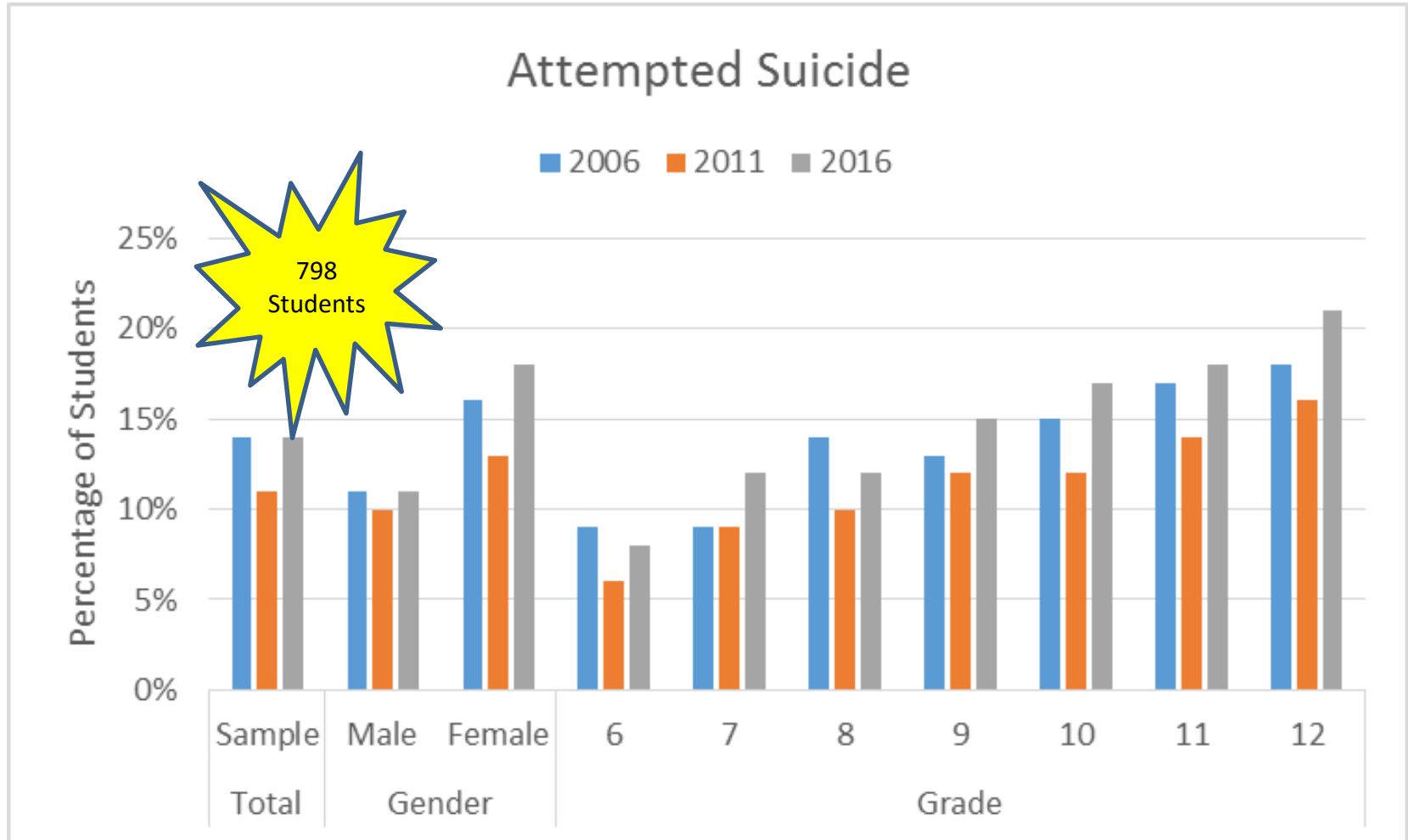
Eating Disorders



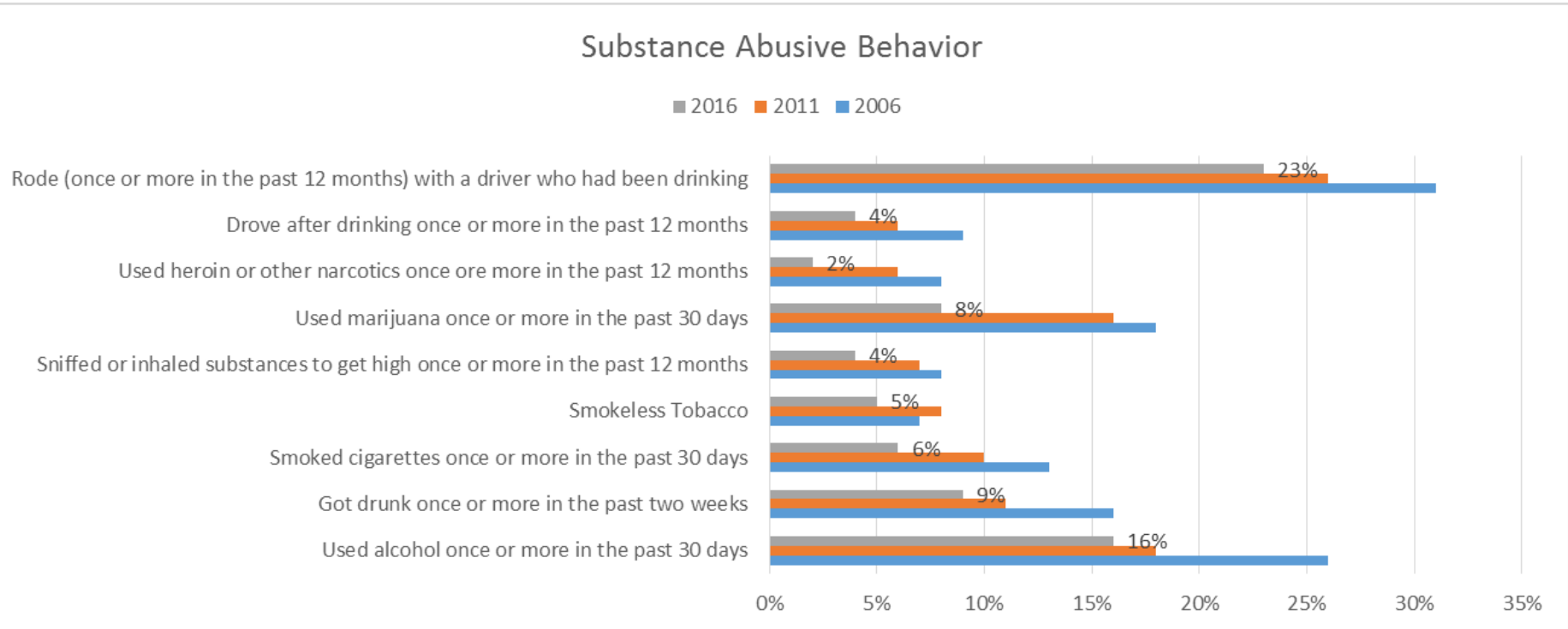
Depression



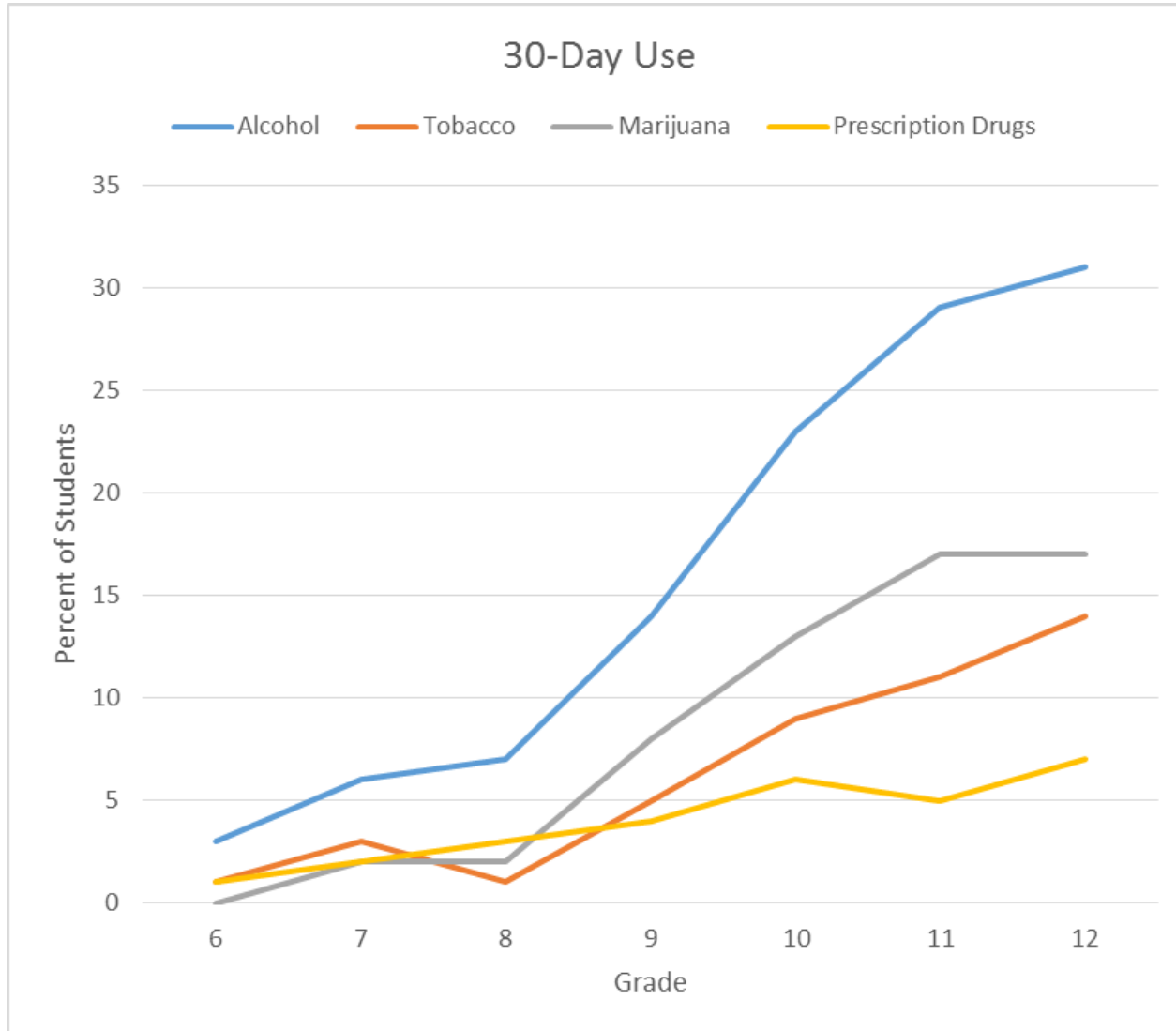
Attempted Suicide



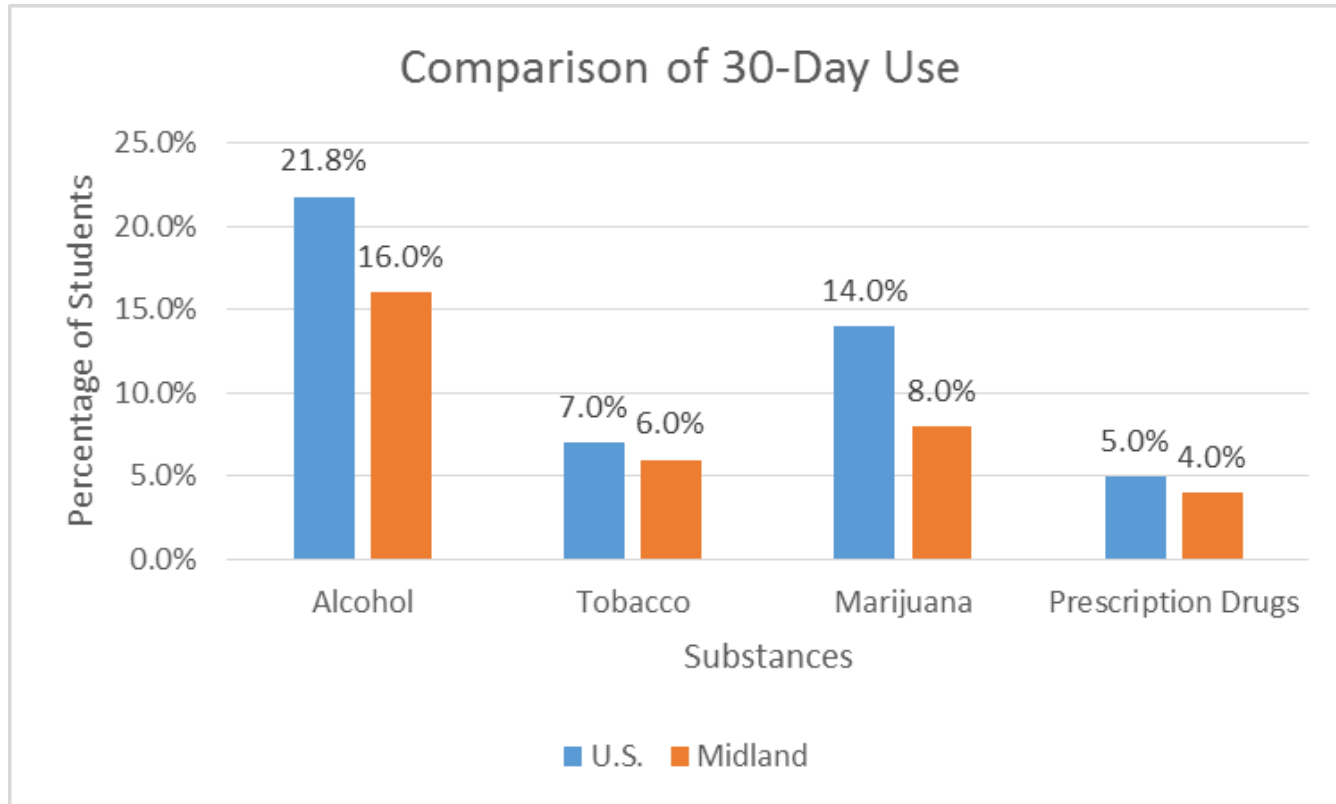
Substance Abusive Behavior



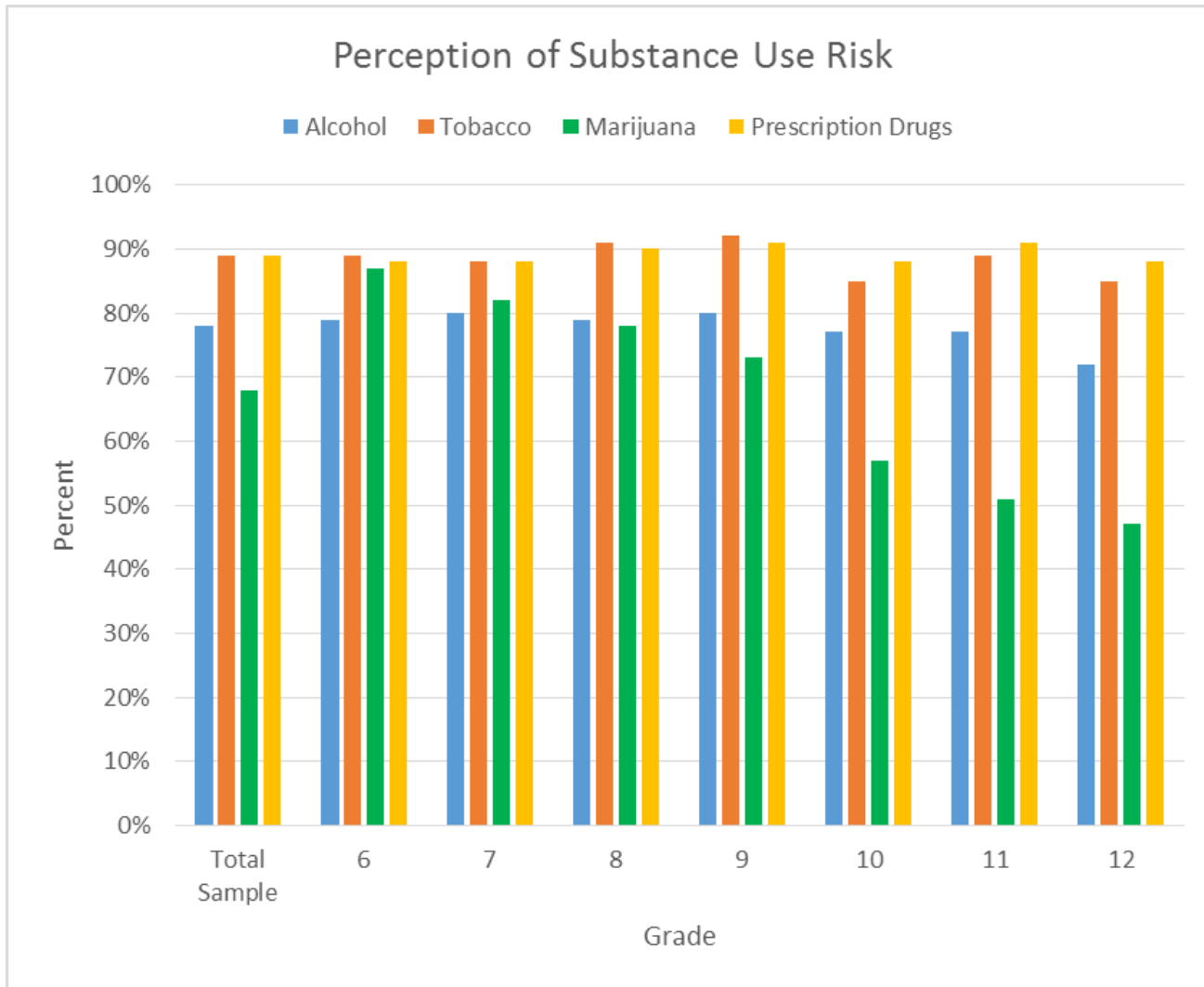
30-Day Use by Grade



30-Day Use Comparison



Perception of Risk



Conclusions

- Our efforts are paying off!
 - Assets have increased
 - Risk-Taking Behaviors have decreased
 - The Developmental Assets concept is firmly embedded in our community, and we are continuing to make progress.
- Kuddos to the many organizations who have joined us on our Asset journey

Next Steps

- Continue analyzing data
- Share results with key stakeholders and general public via presentations and media.
- Host meeting in April with community leaders to review the study and develop a plan to tackle key issues.
- We need to continue working together to instill assets in our youth to enable positive long-term outcomes.

THANK YOU!

www.tlc4cs.org/youth-development/