



# **FERNDALE PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

## **SEPTEMBER 2010**

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**Institute for Research on Women and Gender,  
University of Michigan**



# Acknowledgements

- This research was supported by the National Institute on Drug Abuse, National Institutes of Health, Grant R01 DA024678 to C. J. Boyd, Ph.D.
- This research was supported by the University of Michigan and by the Ferndale Public Schools.

# FERNDALE PUBLIC SCHOOLS (FPS)



- Since restructuring the FPS have been committed to collecting data that provide information to administrators, teachers AND THE COMMUNITY.
- These data allow our students to tell us about their school experiences;
- These presentations to the School Board are available to the public.

# BACKGROUND:

## Ferndale Middle School

- Population: 415
- Sample: 313
- Returned Consents:
  - Yes: 313
  - No: 43
  - Not returned: 59
- Response Rate: 75%

# BACKGROUND:

## Ferndale High School

- Population: 953
- Sample: 587
- Returned Consents:
  - Yes: 599
  - No: 136
  - Not returned: 217
- Response Rate: 62%

# BACKGROUND:

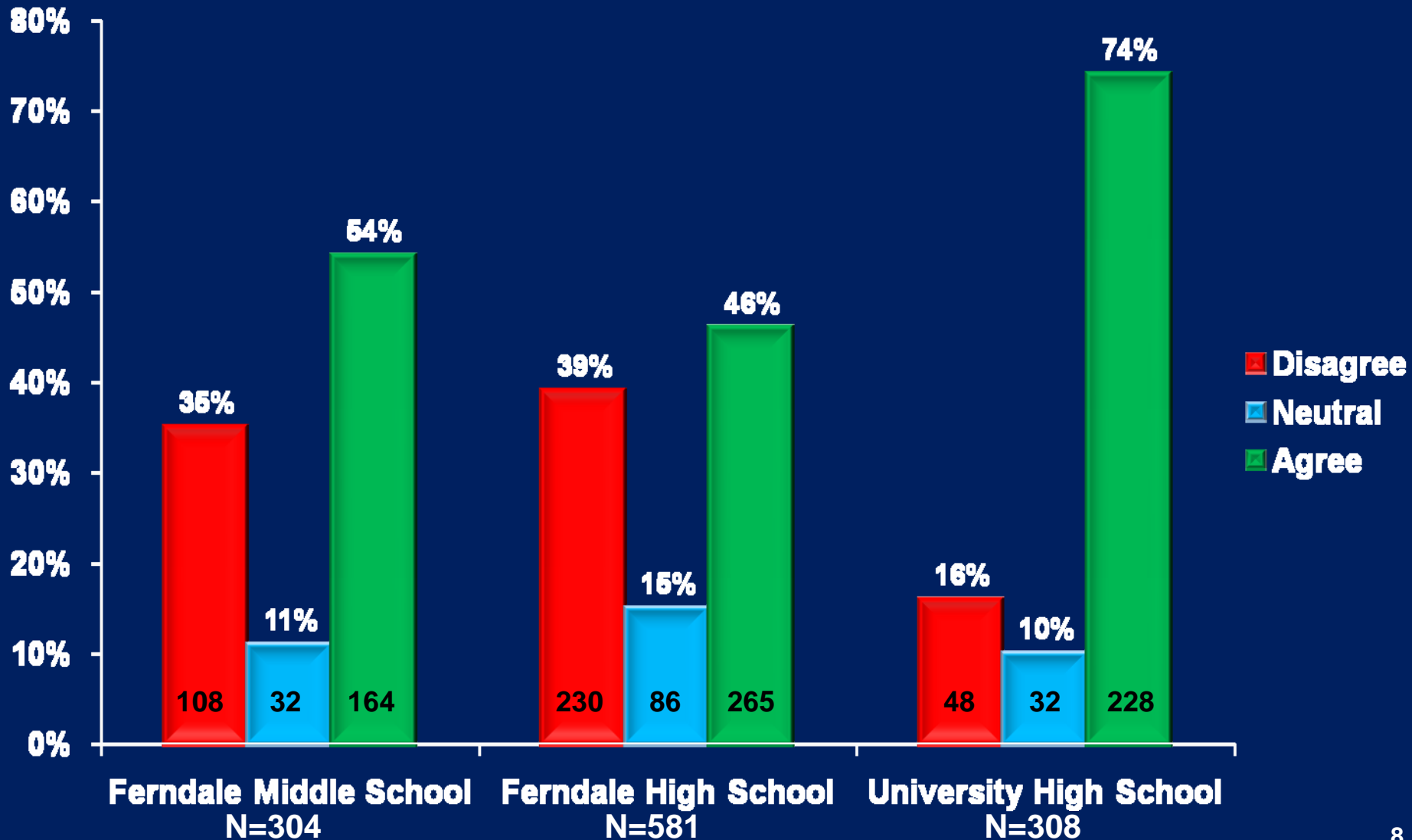
## University High School

- Population: 441
- Sample: 311
- Returned Consents:
  - Yes: 314
  - No: 59
  - Not returned: 68
- Response Rate: 71%

# SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

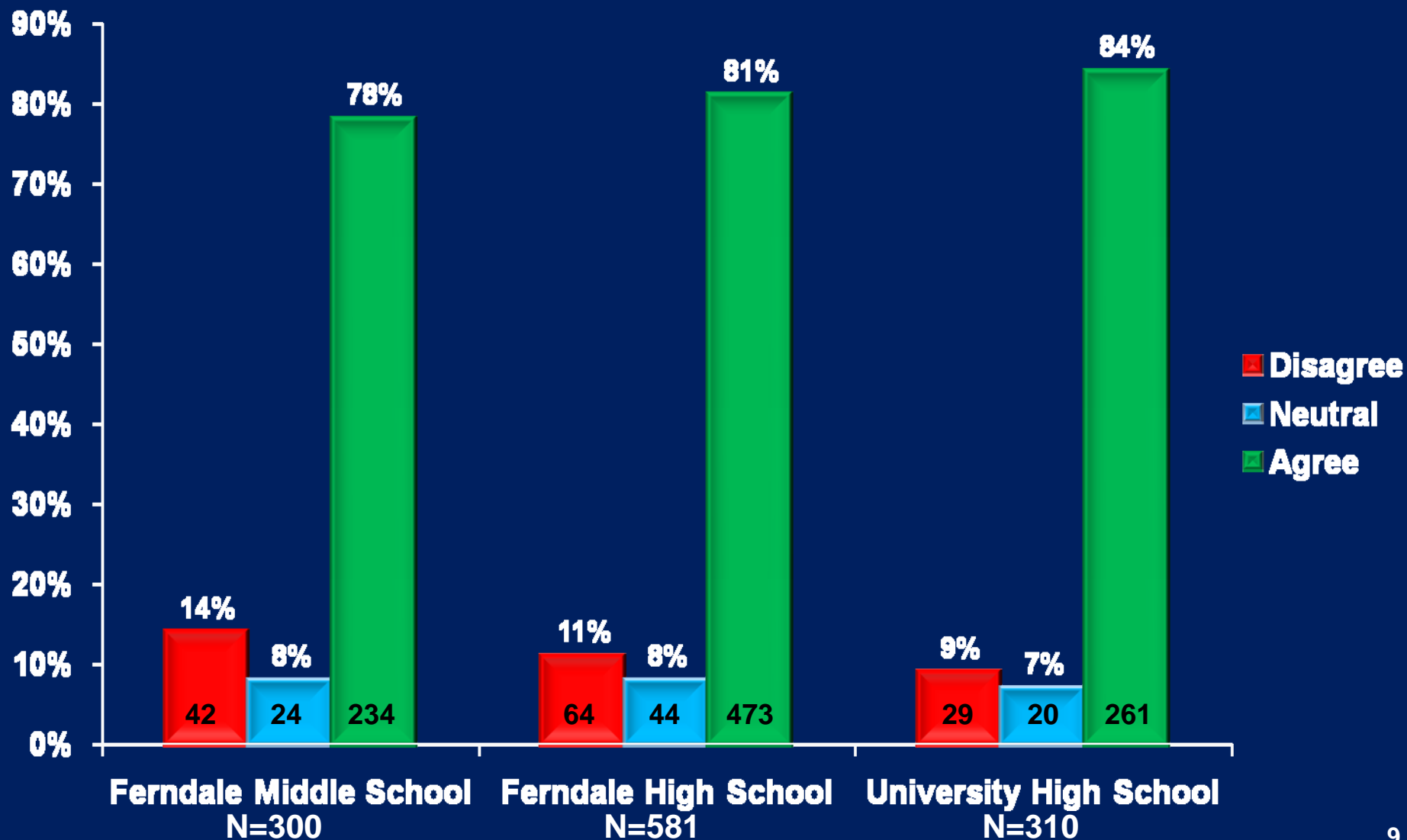
# “Average class size at my school is small enough for my teachers to give attention to individual students.”

(Percentage of students agreeing with the above statement.)



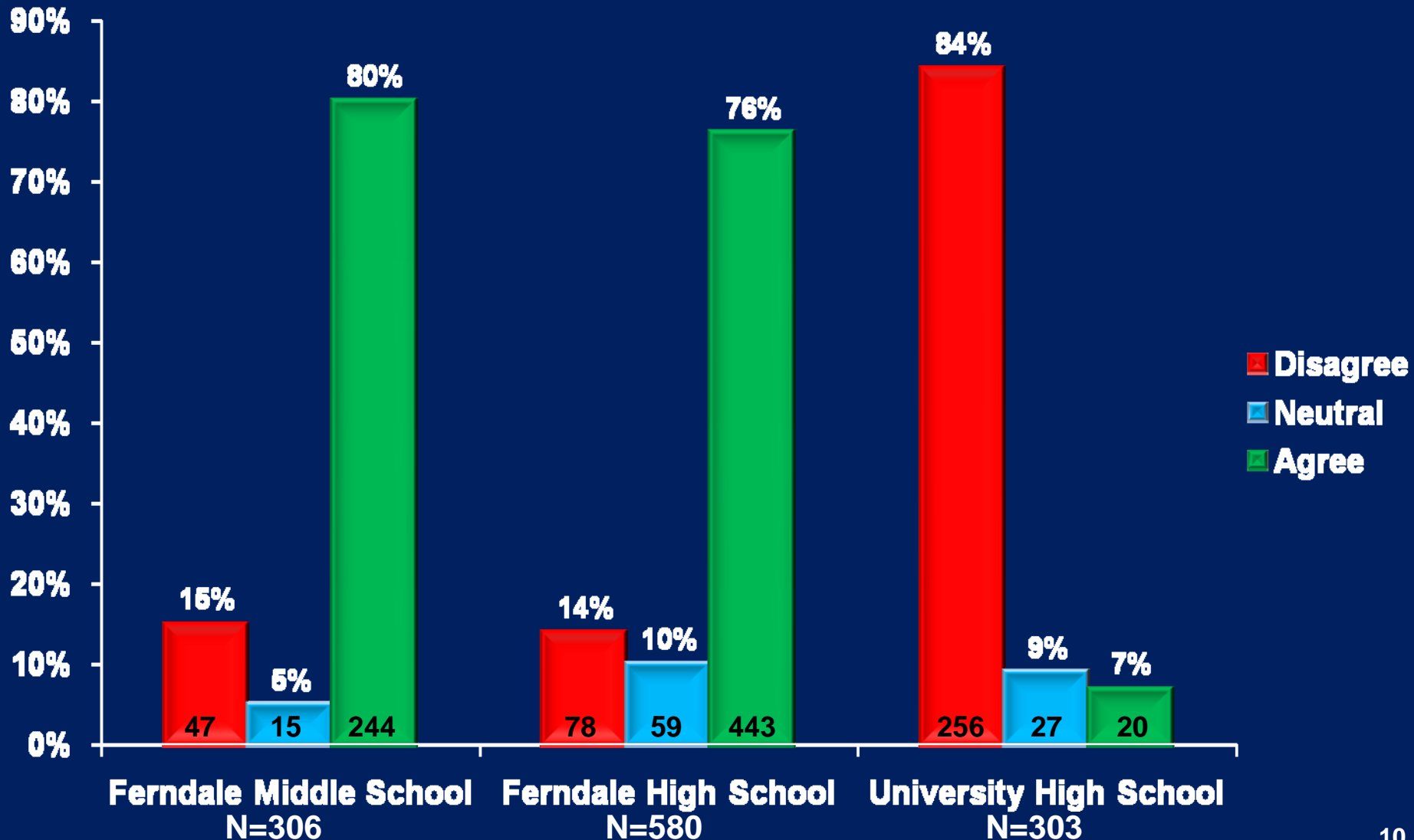
**“Generally, my school provides me with the facilities I need (e.g., classrooms, computers, library facilities).”**

(Percentage of students agreeing with the above statement.)

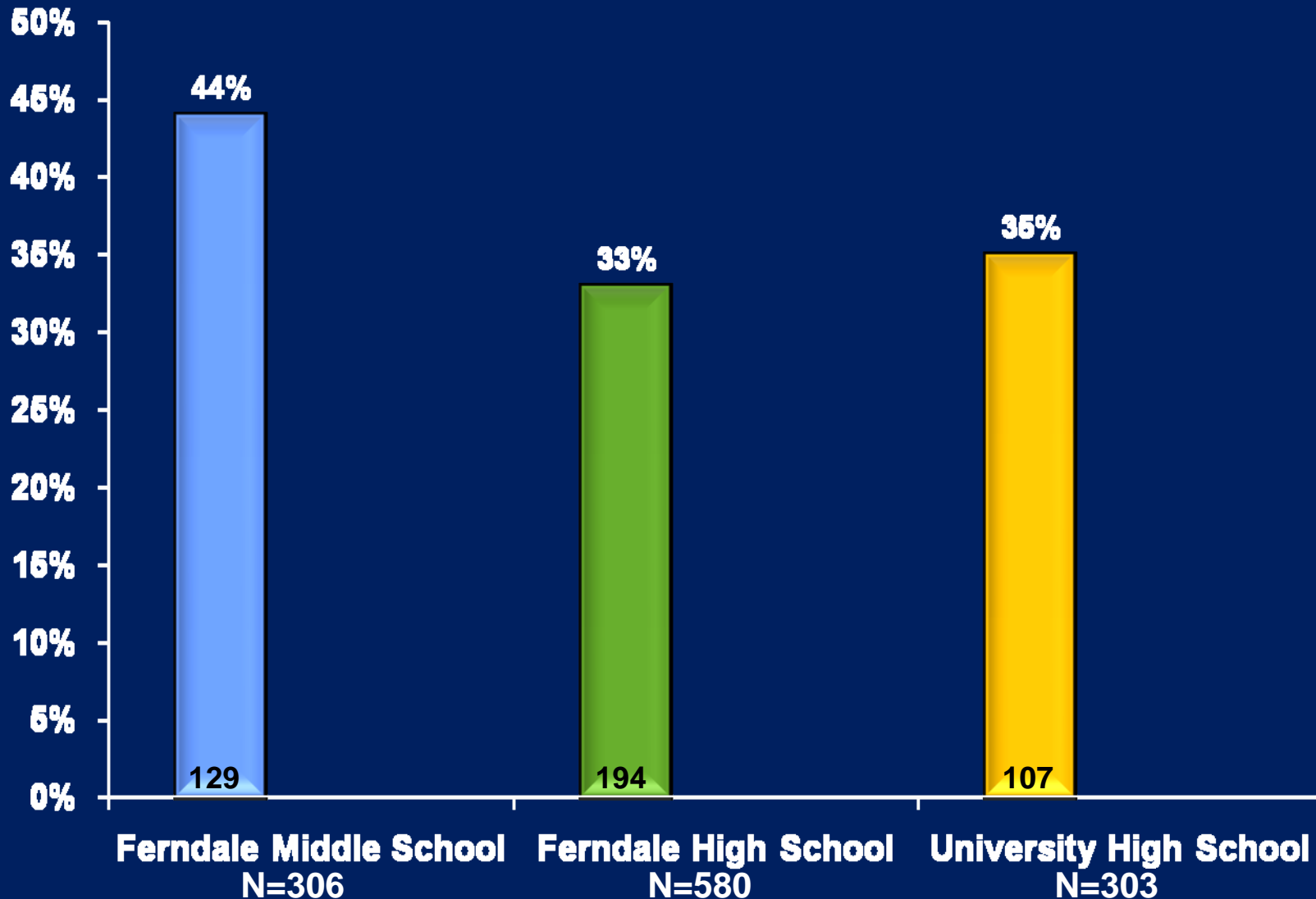


# “My school has a wide variety of music, dance and art programs for students.”

(Percentage of students agreeing with the above statement.)



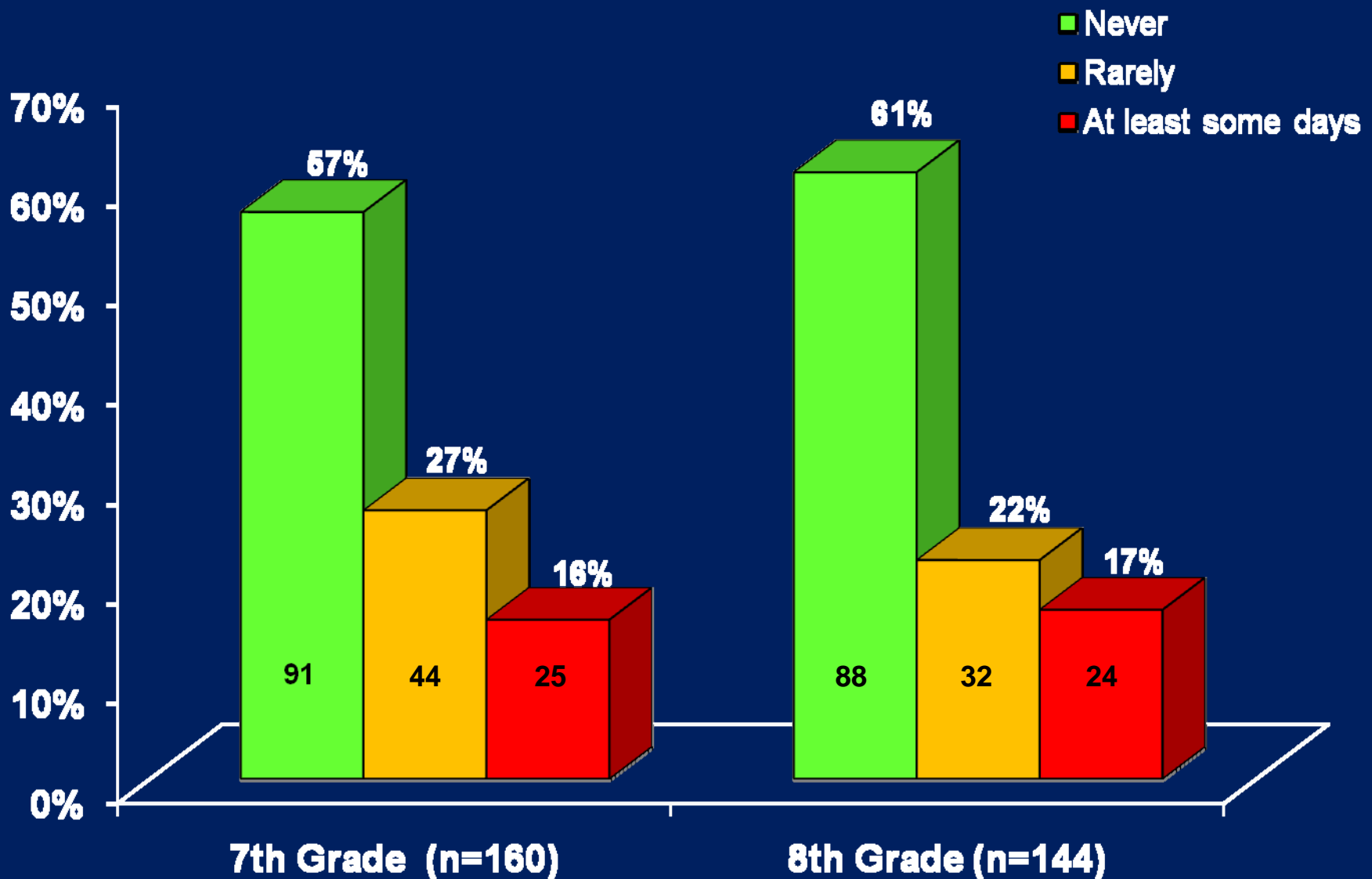
# Percentage of students who listed at least one club, organization, group, or team



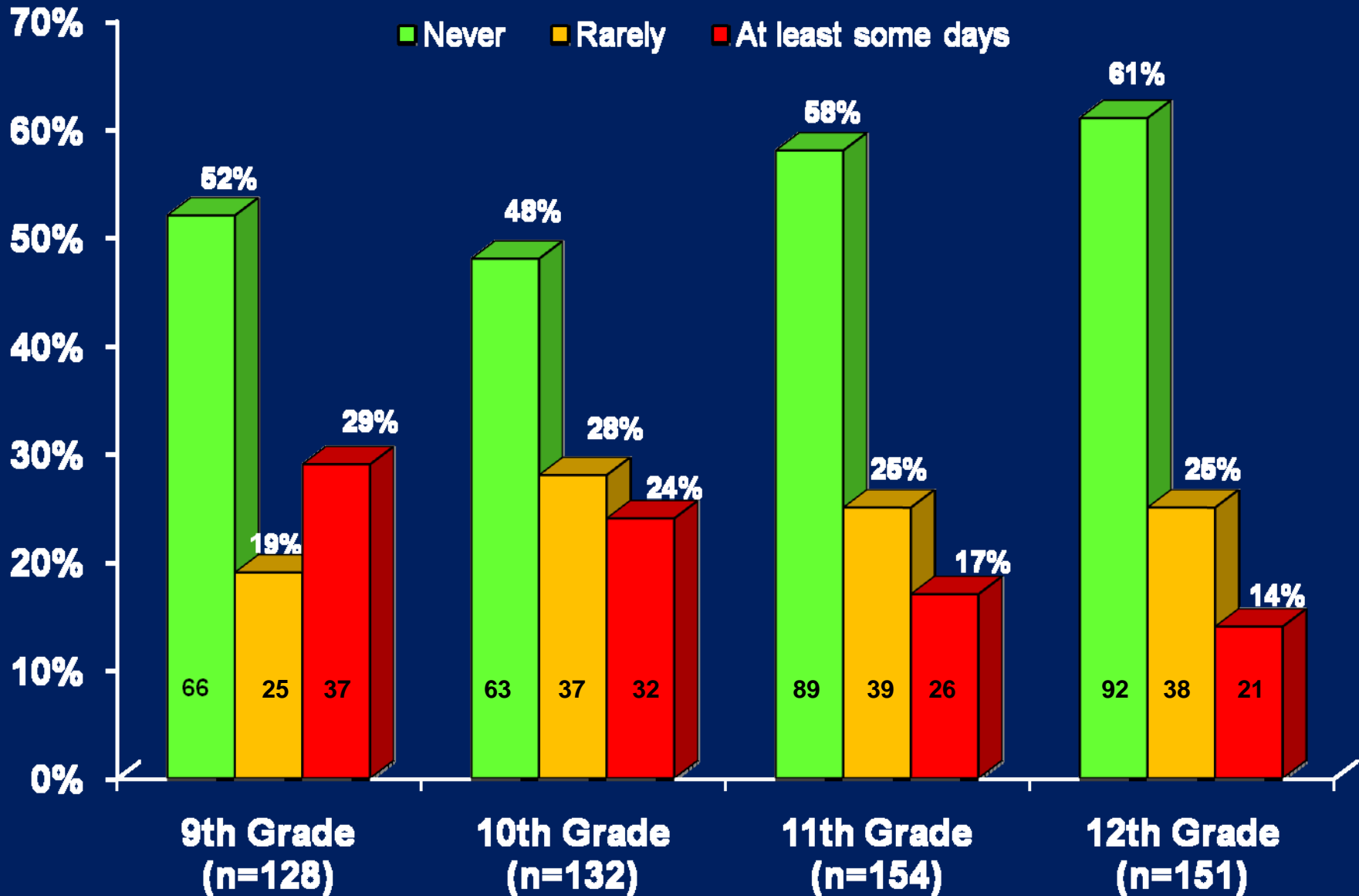
**Despite “high marks” in  
several environmental areas...**

***Several challenges remain!***

# “During the past 12 months, how often have you felt unsafe at school?”

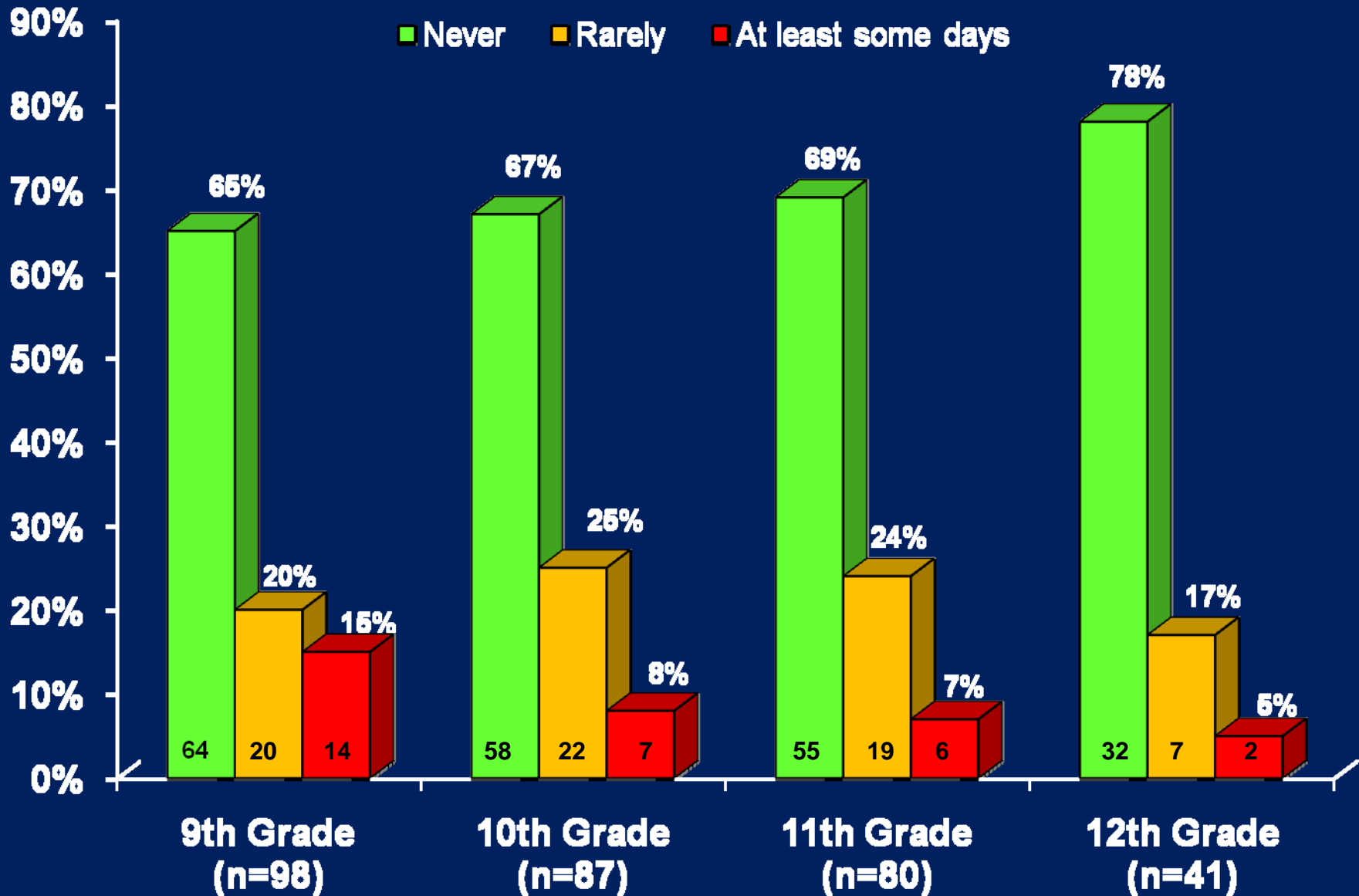


# “During the past 12 months, how often have you felt unsafe at school?”



FERNDALE HIGH SCHOOL

# “During the past 12 months, how often have you felt unsafe at school?”



UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL

# TOBACCO USE

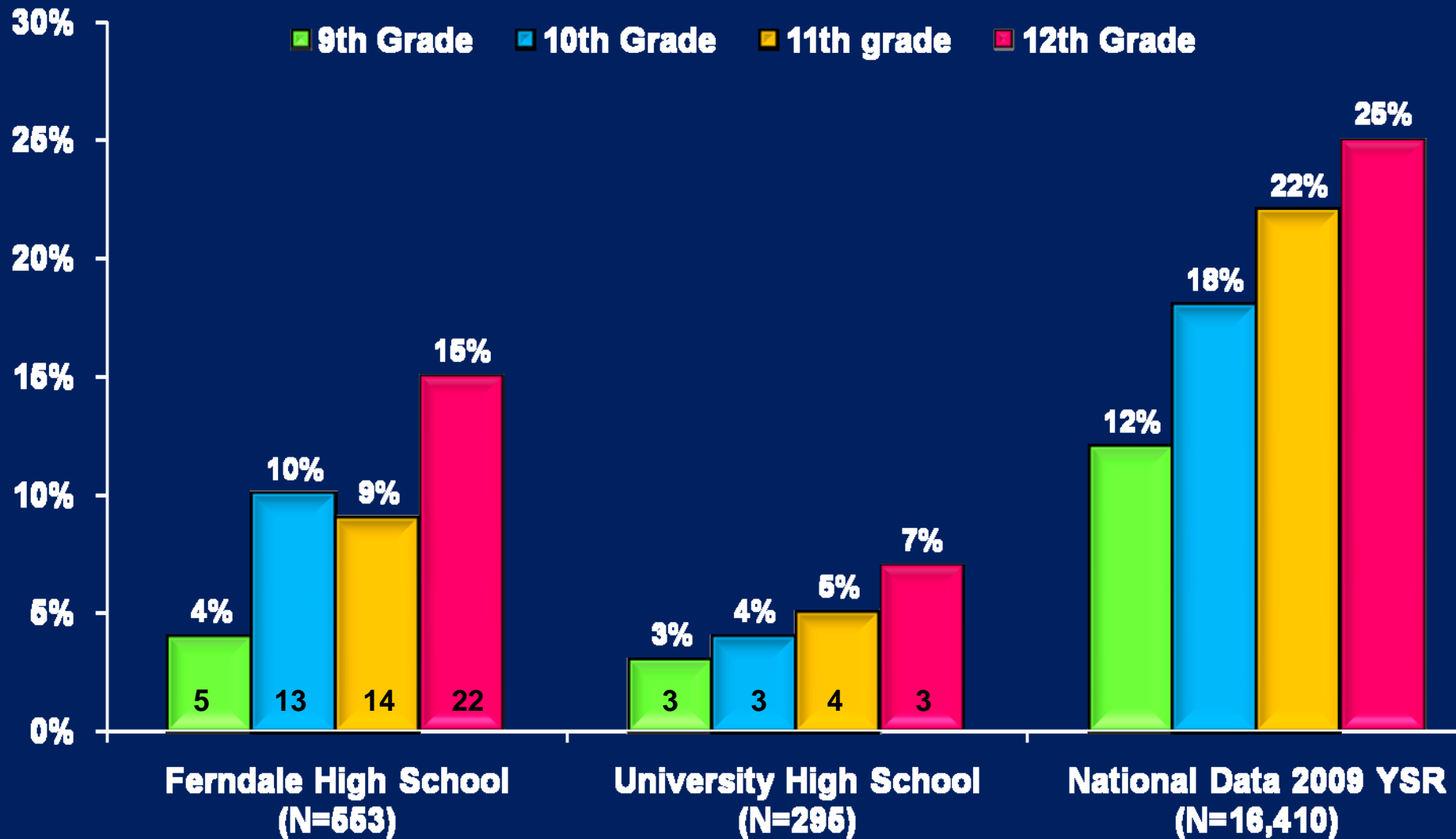
**Betcha can!**

So you think you can't switch down to lower tar and still find satisfying taste. Wanna bet?

**You've got MERIT**

**SURGEON GENERAL'S WARNING: Smoking Causes Lung Cancer, Heart Disease, Emphysema, And May Complicate Pregnancy.**

# Prevalence of Past 30 Days Tobacco Use by Grade: Ferndale High Schools Compared to National Data

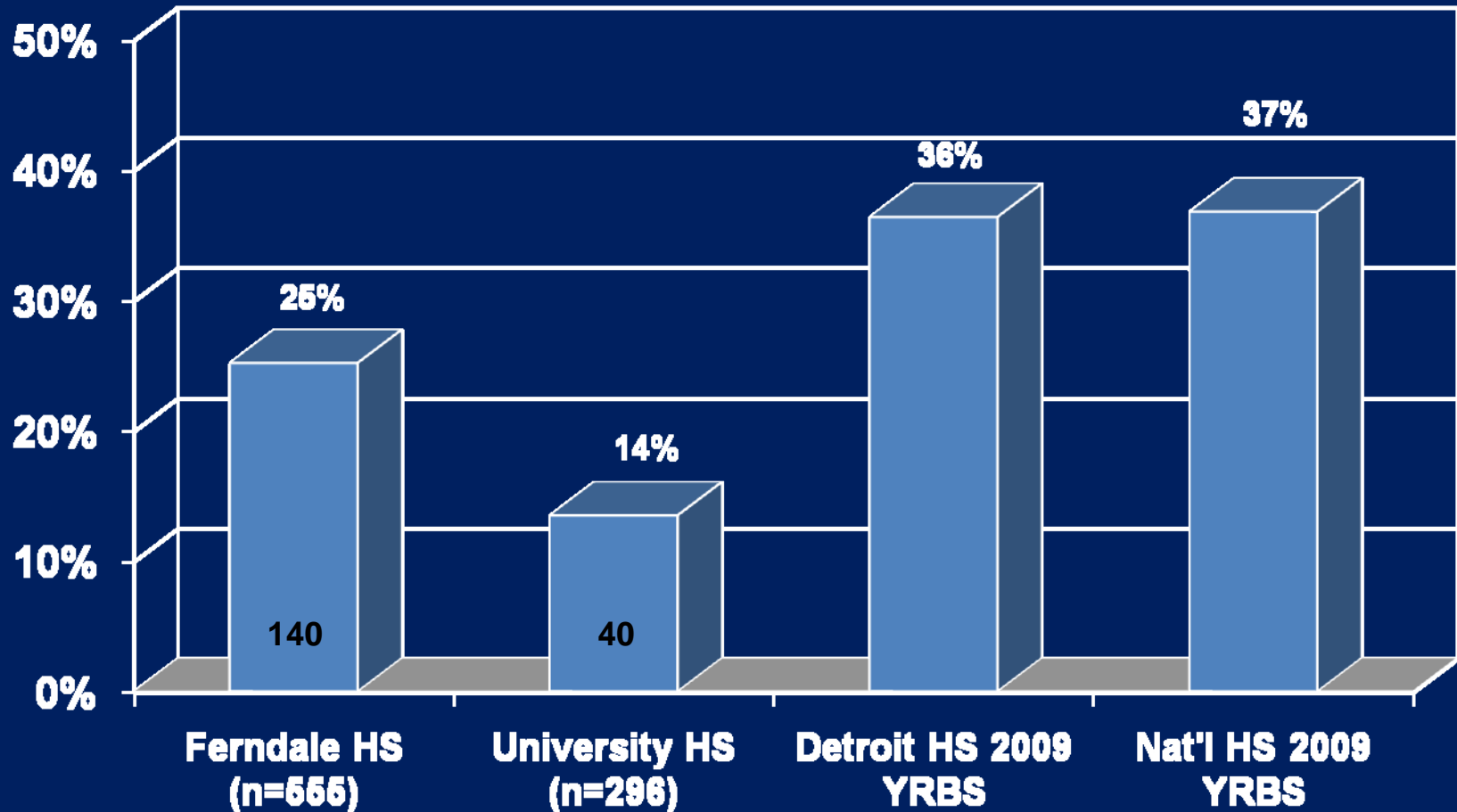


# MARIJUANA USE



# Comparisons: Lifetime Marijuana Use

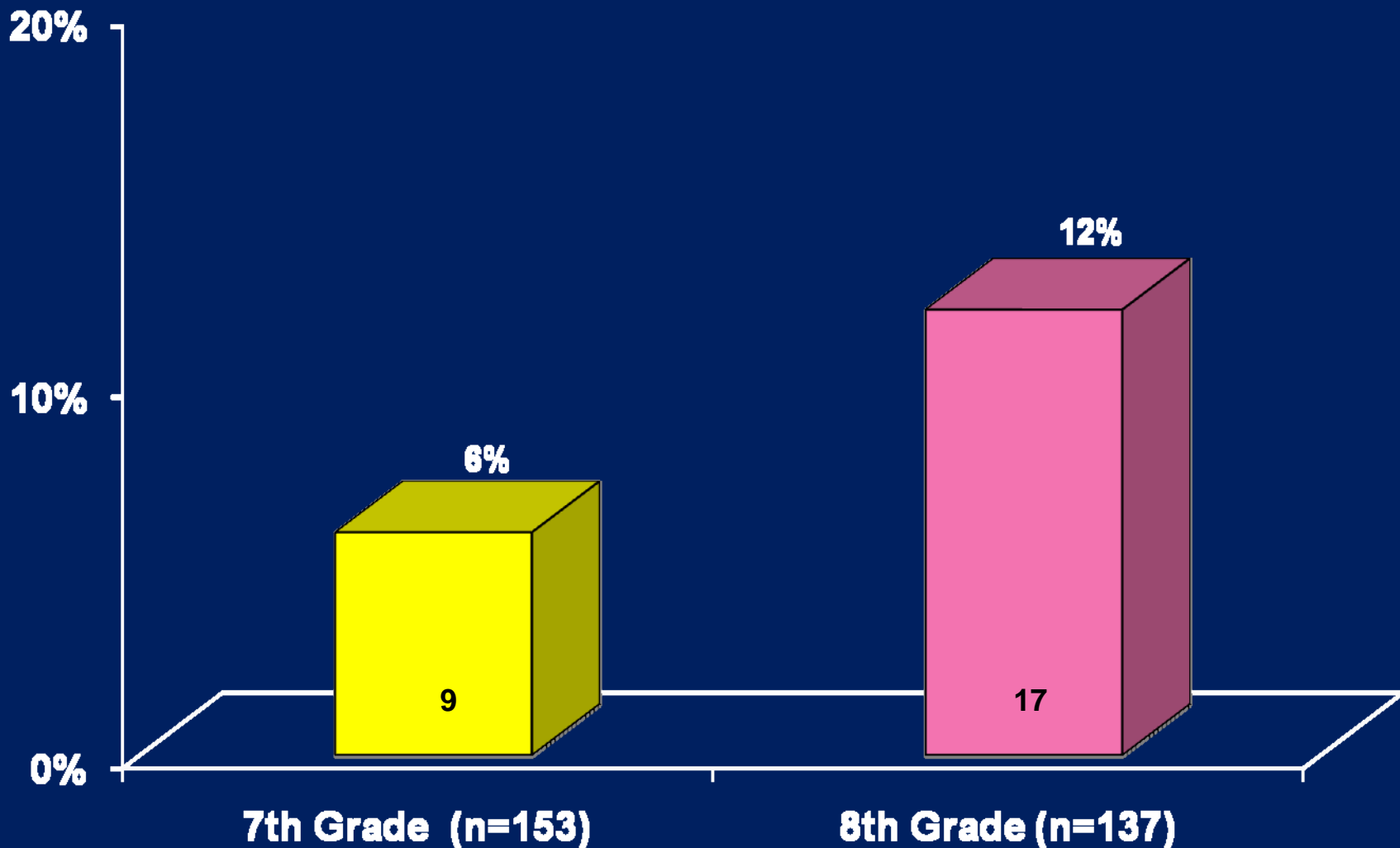
□ % reporting marijuana use



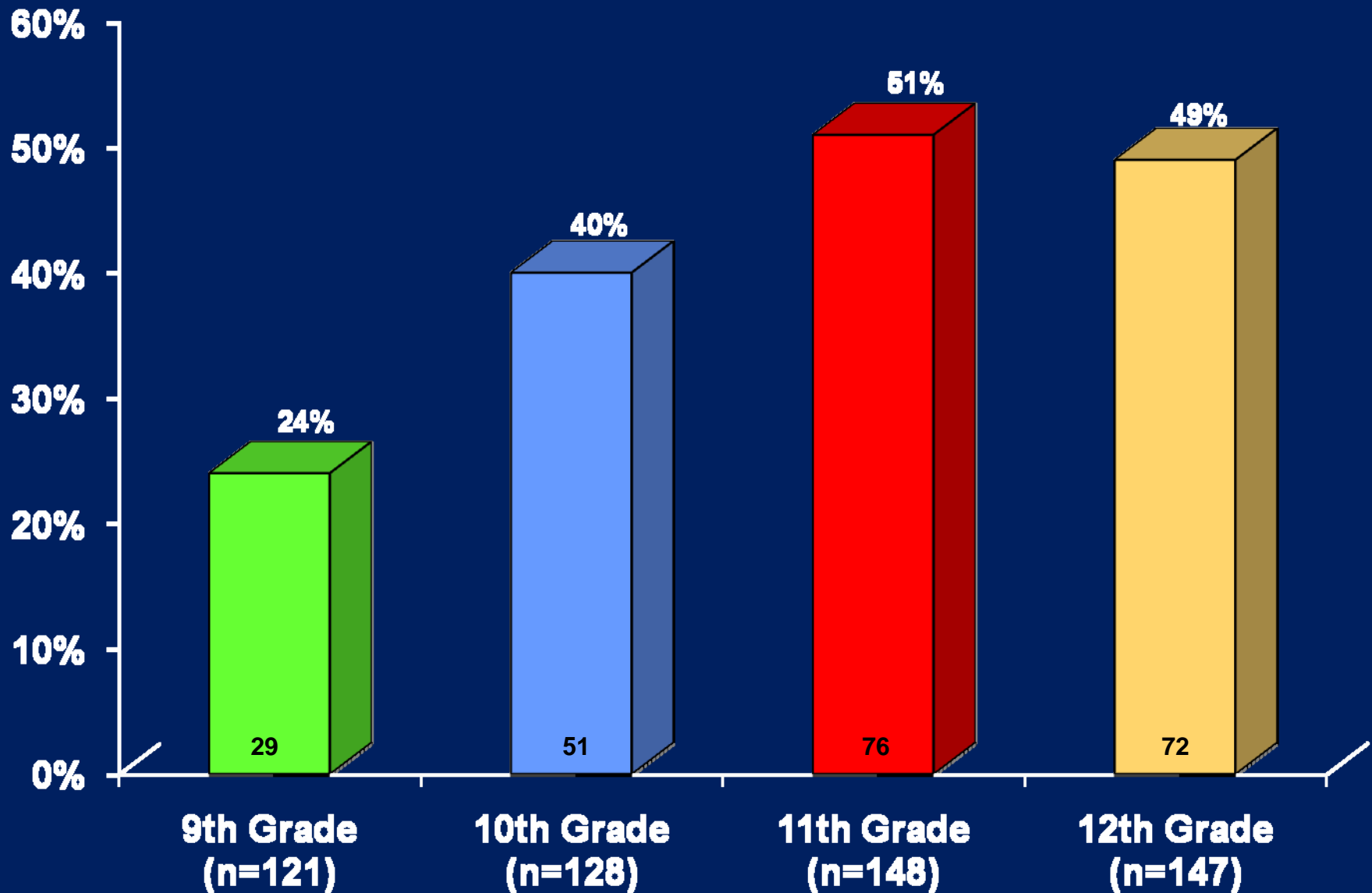
# ALCOHOL USE



# Prevalence of “any alcohol use on at least one occasion” during the past 12 months.

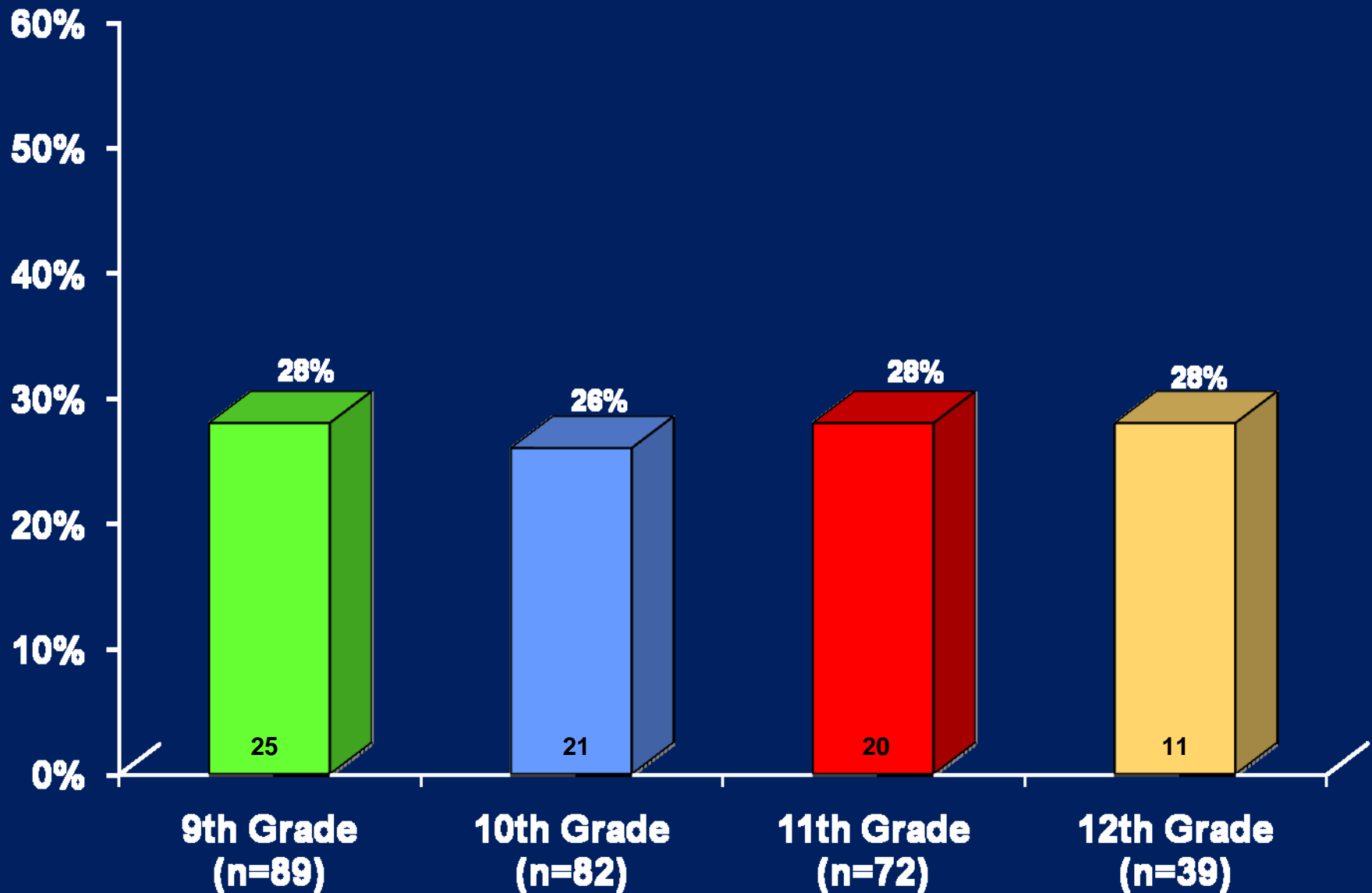


# Prevalence of “any alcohol use on at least one occasion” during the past 12 months.



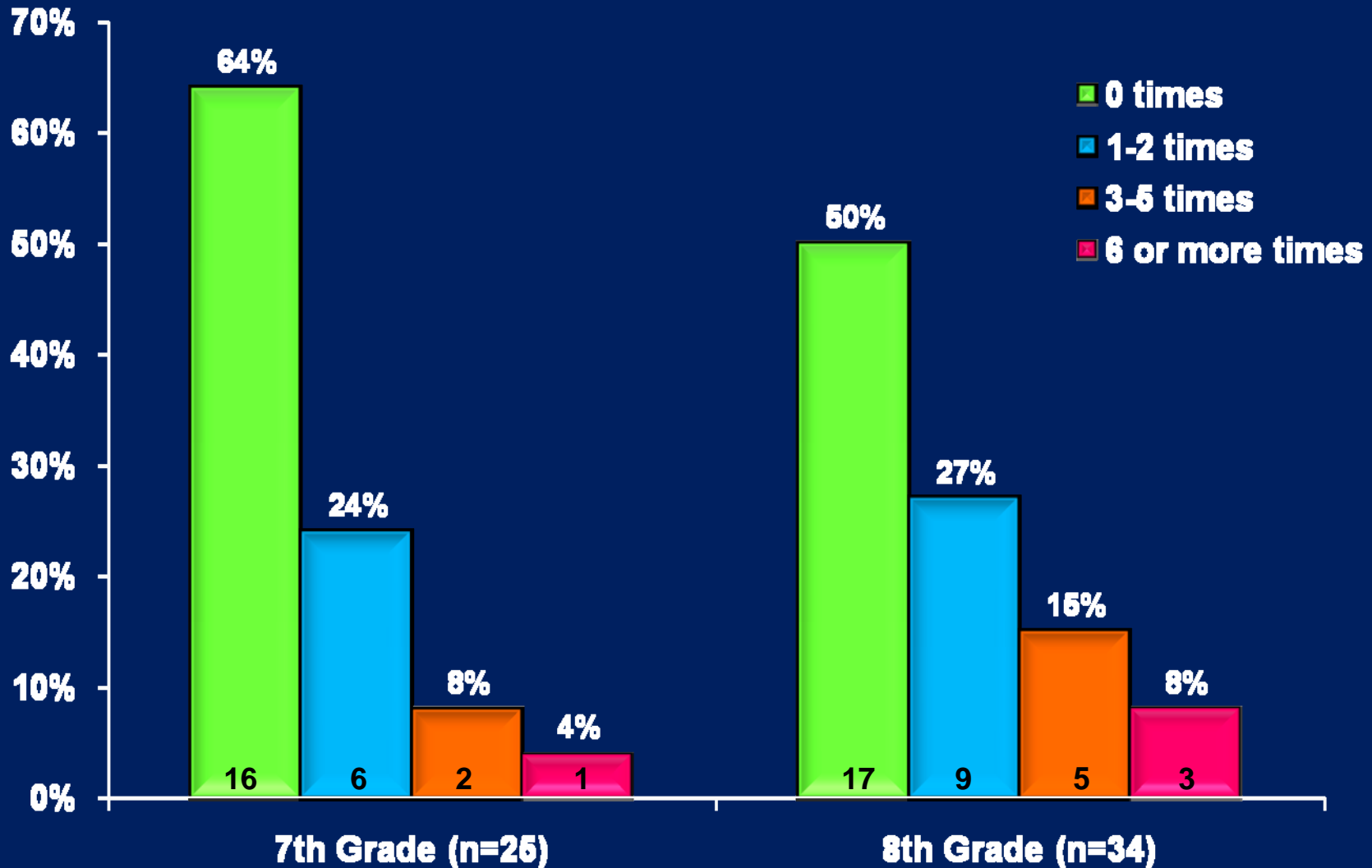
**FERNDALE HIGH SCHOOL**

# Prevalence of “any alcohol use on at least one occasion” during the past 12 months.



# “On how many occasions have you had alcohol to drink during the past 12 months?”

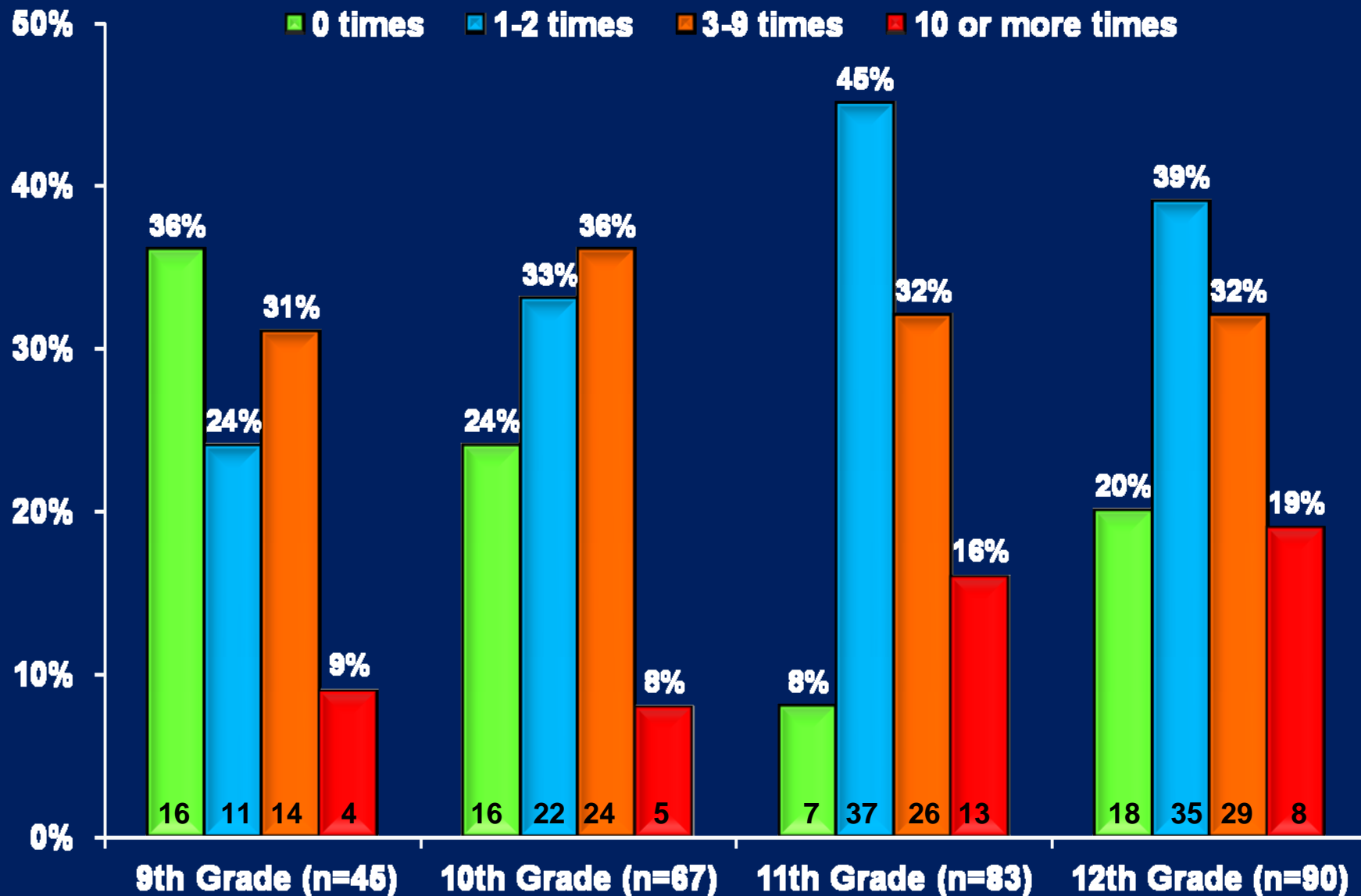
(Only students who drank at least once in their lives were asked this question.)



**FERNDALE MIDDLE SCHOOL**

# “On how many occasions have you had alcohol to drink during the past 12 months?”

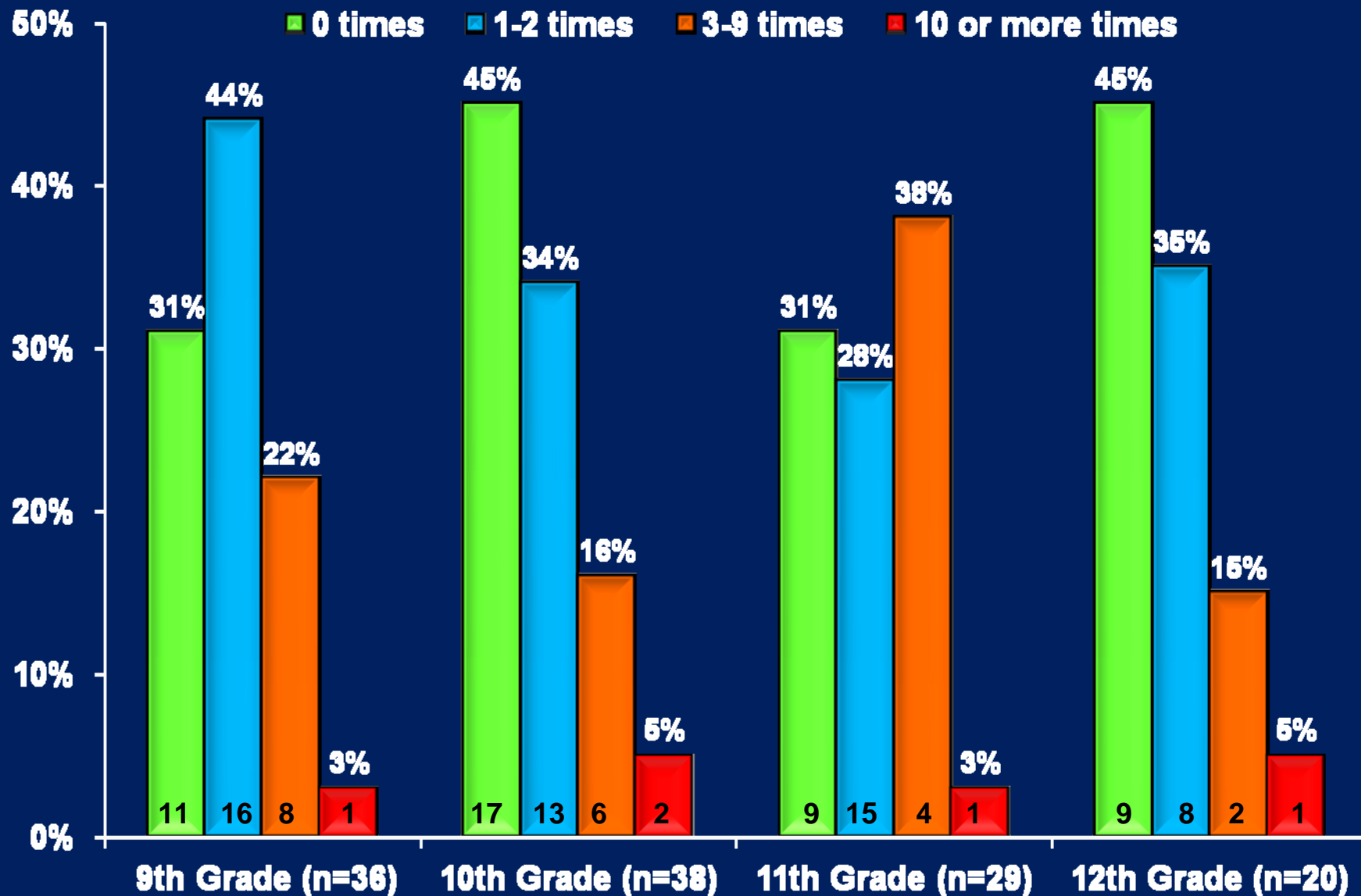
(Only students who drank at least once in their lives were asked this question.)



FERNDALE HIGH SCHOOL

# “On how many occasions have you had alcohol to drink during the past 12 months?”

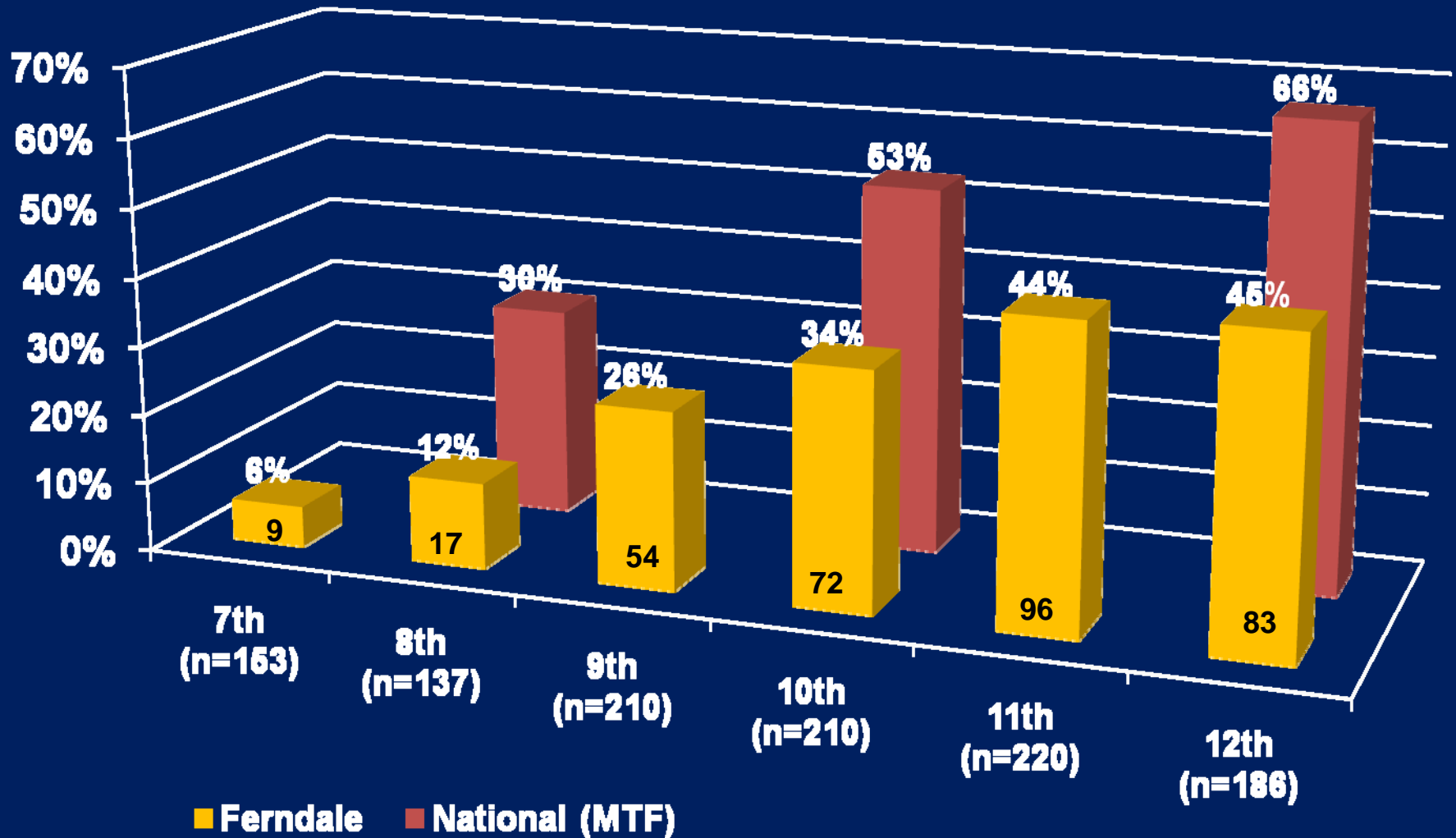
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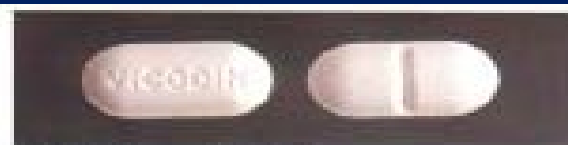
UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL

# Prevalence of any alcohol use in the past 12 months:

## FERNDALE PUBLIC SCHOOLS COMPARED TO NATIONAL DATA.



# PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS



**Trade Name: Vicodin**

Controlled Ingredient: hydrocodone bitartrate, 5 mg

Other Ingredients: acetaminophen, 500 mg

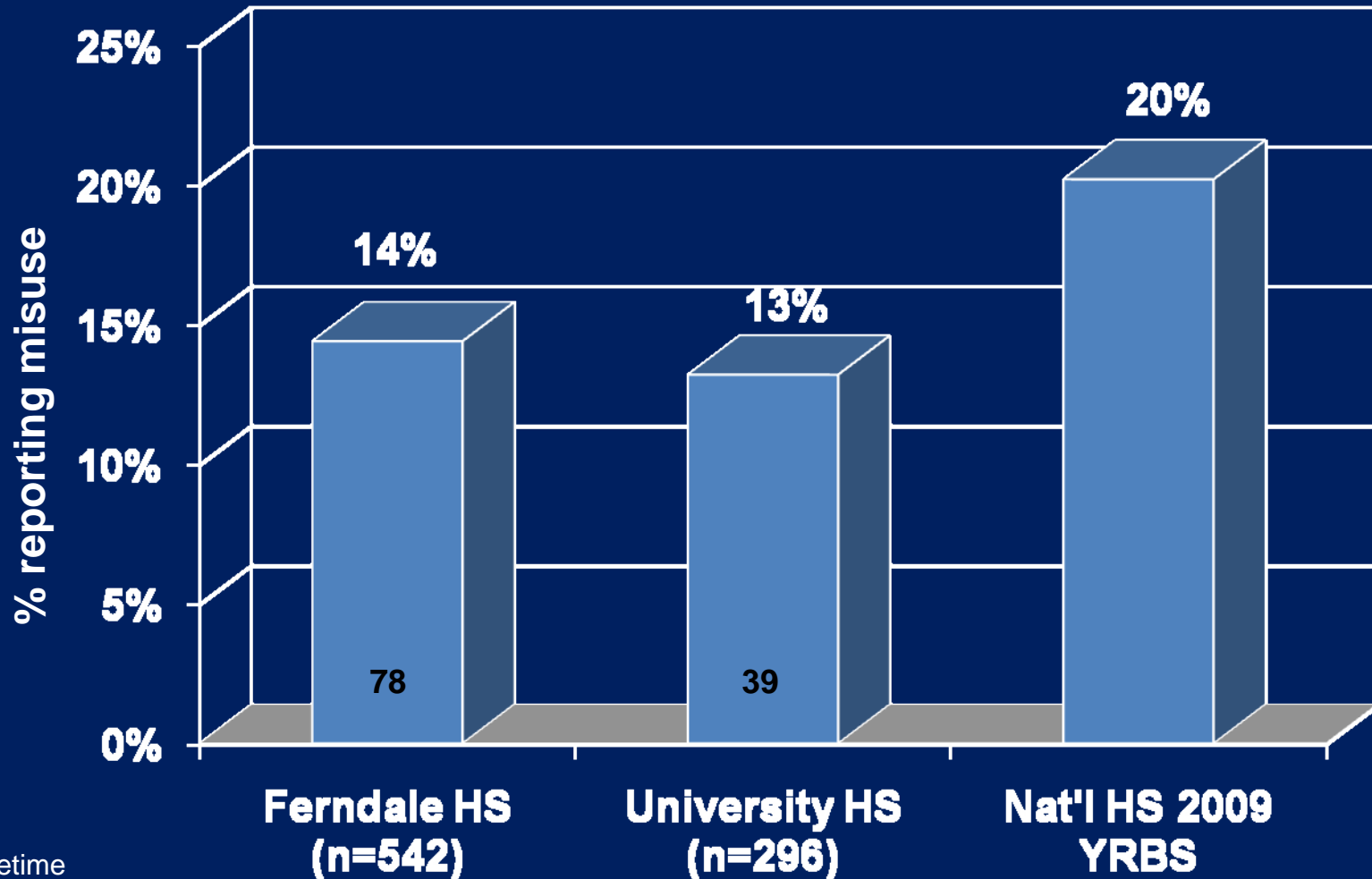


**Trade Name: Vicodin ES**

Controlled Ingredient: hydrocodone bitartrate, 7.5 mg

Other Ingredients: acetaminophen, 750 mg

# Nonmedical Misuse of Any Leading Abusable Prescribed Medications\*



\*Lifetime

\*On how many occasions in your lifetime have you used the following types of medicines, not prescribed to you?  
Sleeping, anti-anxiety, stimulant, pain medications

# BULLYING: SOCIAL and PHYSICAL



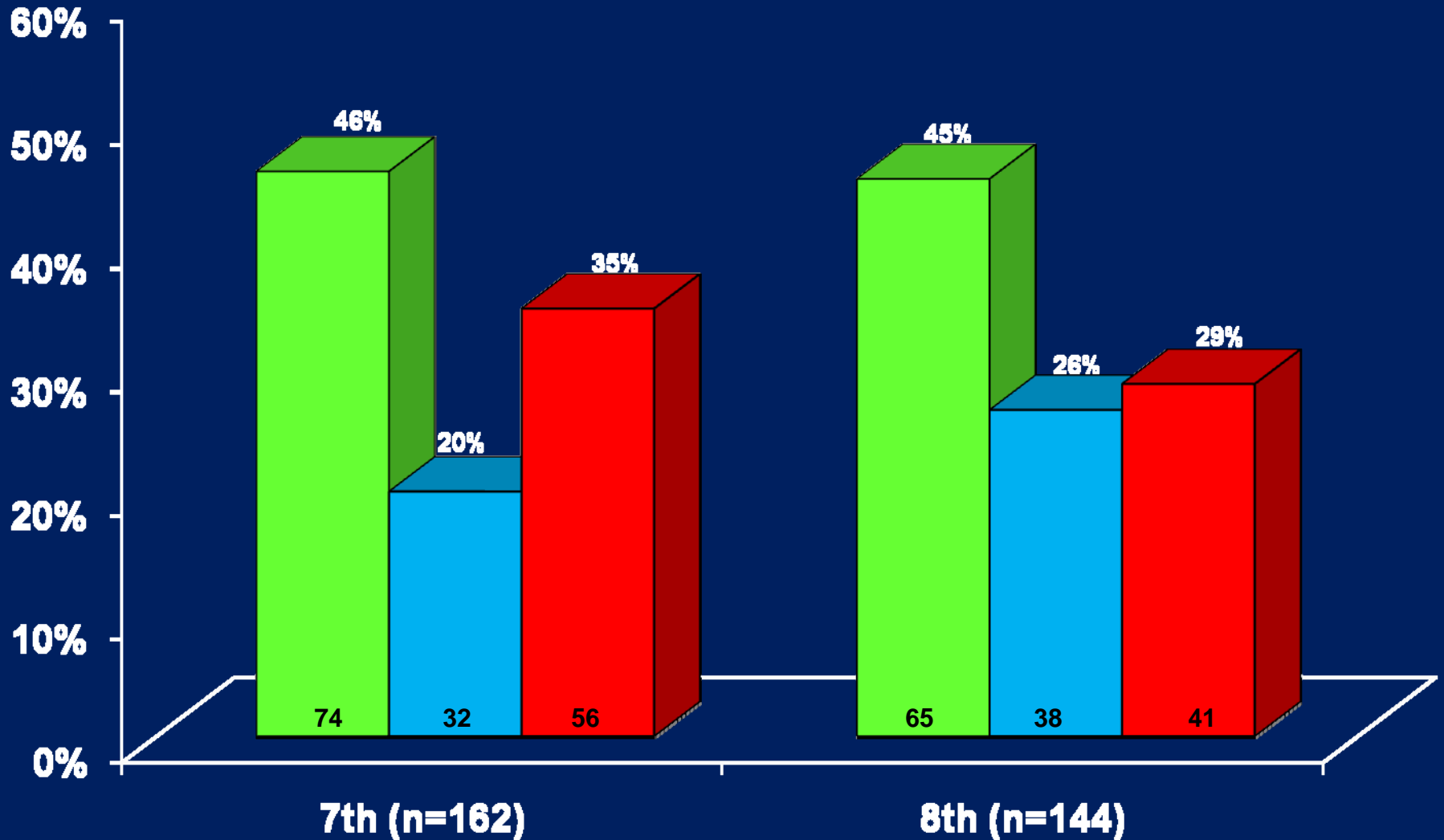
# Social Bullying

*During the past 12 months, how often have other students.....*

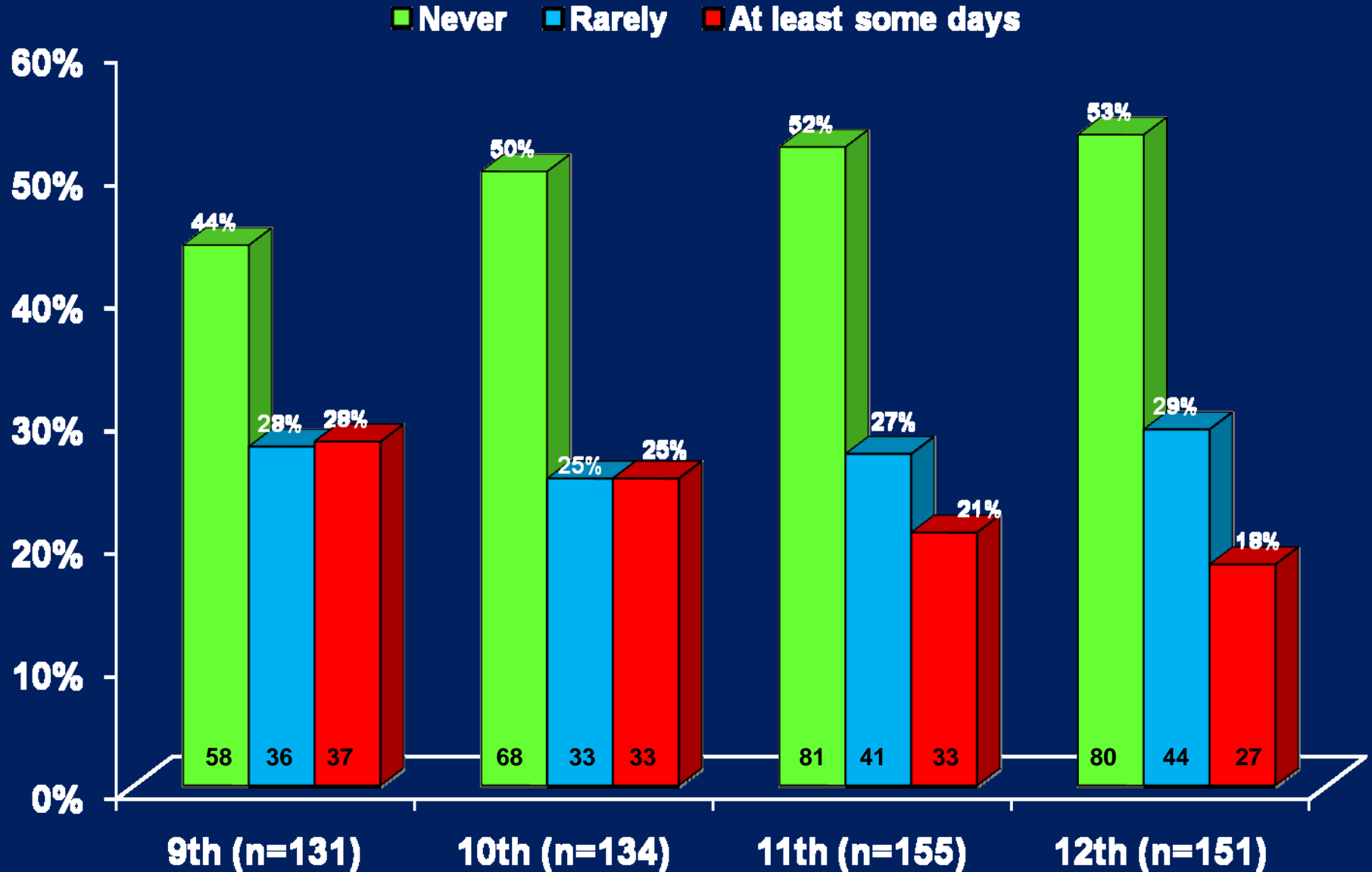
- Said mean things, teased you, or called you names
- Told stories about you that were not true
- Not included you in what they were doing

*During the past 12 months, how often have other students...  
Said mean things, teased you, or called you names in person?*

■ Never ■ Rarely ■ At least some days

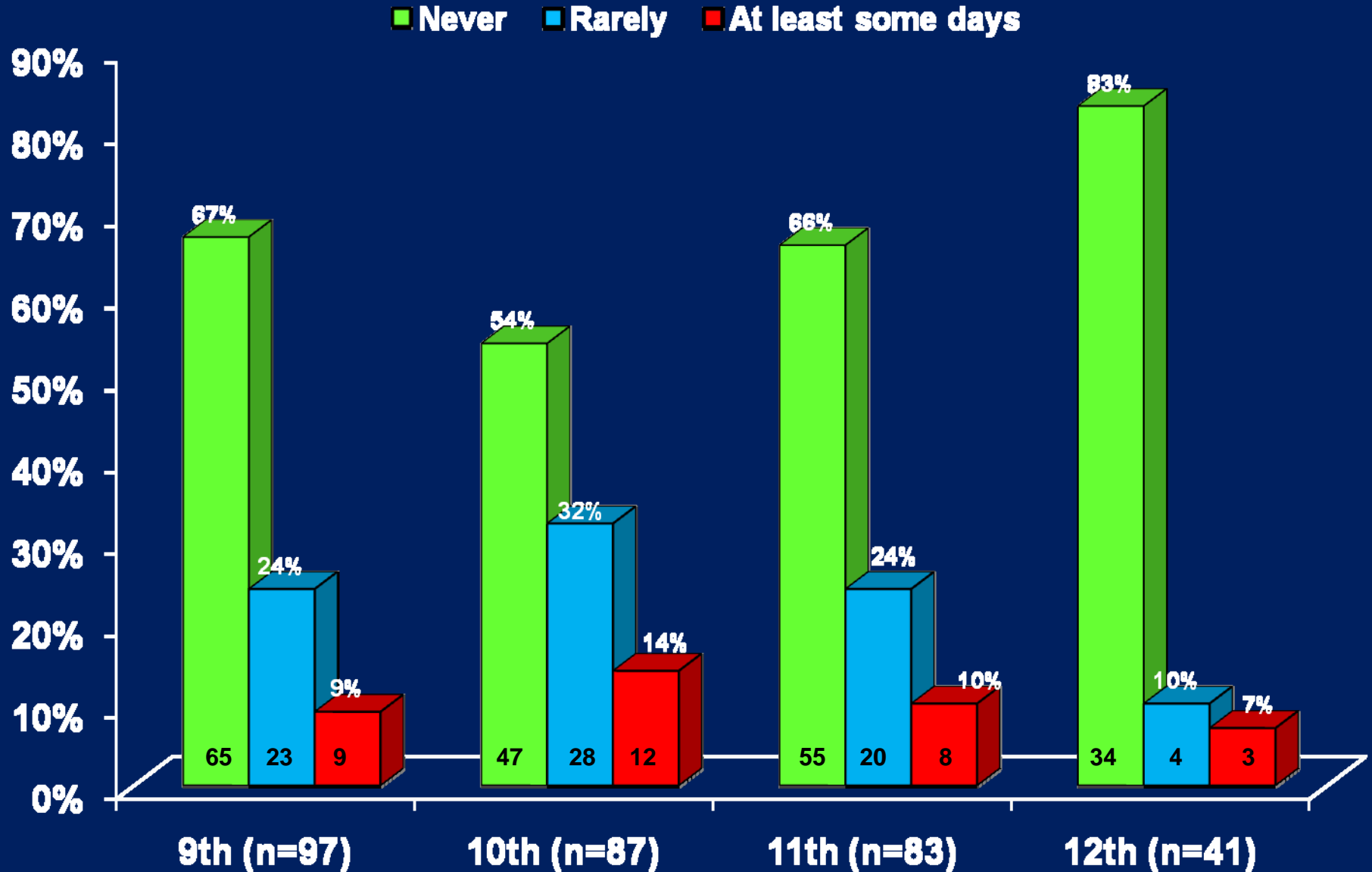


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Said mean things, teased you, or called you names in person?*



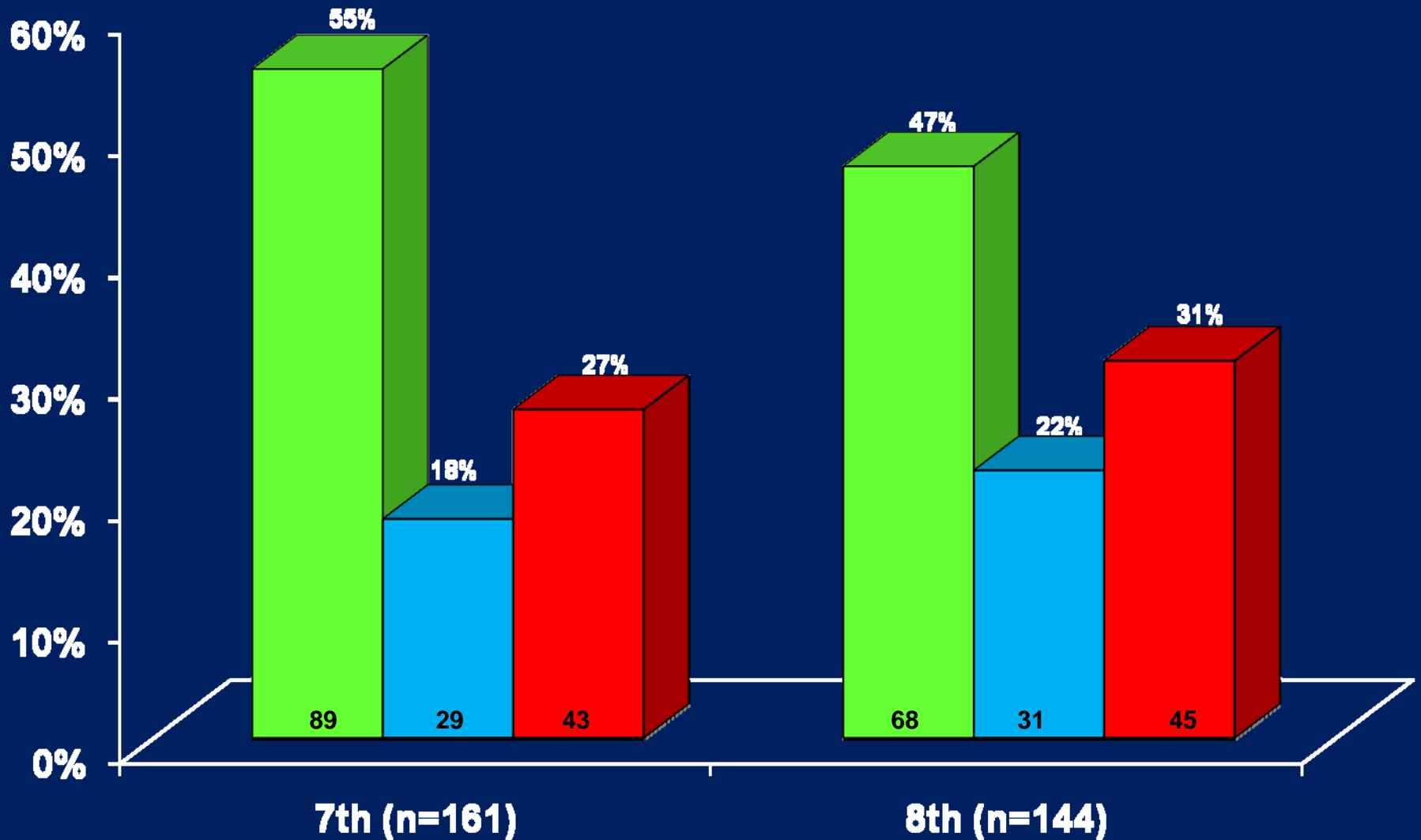
**FERNDALE HIGH SCHOOL**

*During the past 12 months, how often have other students...  
Said mean things, teased you, or called you names in person?*

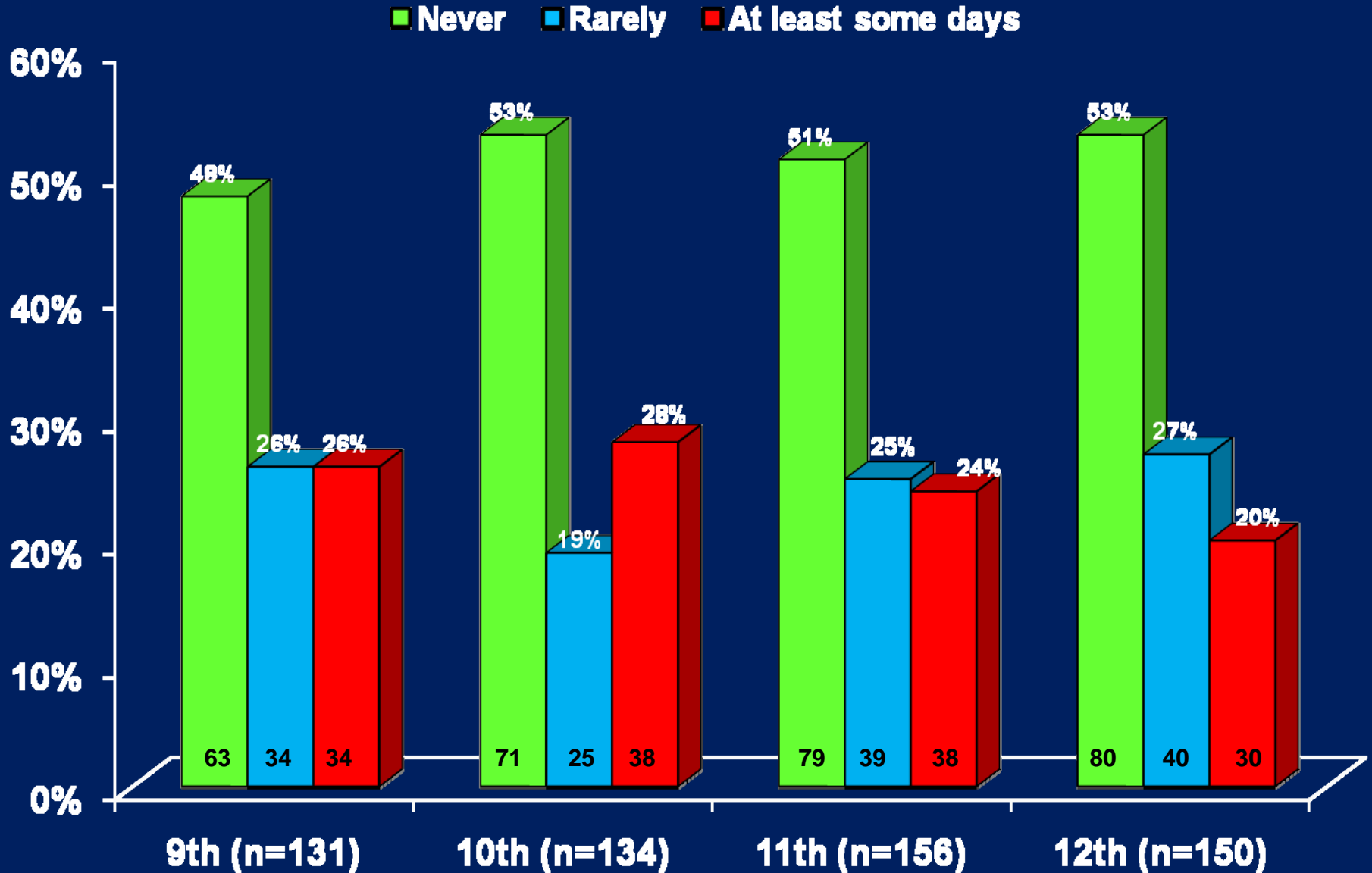


*During the past 12 months, how often have other students...  
Told stories about you that were not true?*

■ Never ■ Rarely ■ At least some days



*During the past 12 months, how often have other students...  
Told stories about you that were not true?*



63

34

34

71

25

38

79

39

38

80

40

30

9th (n=131)

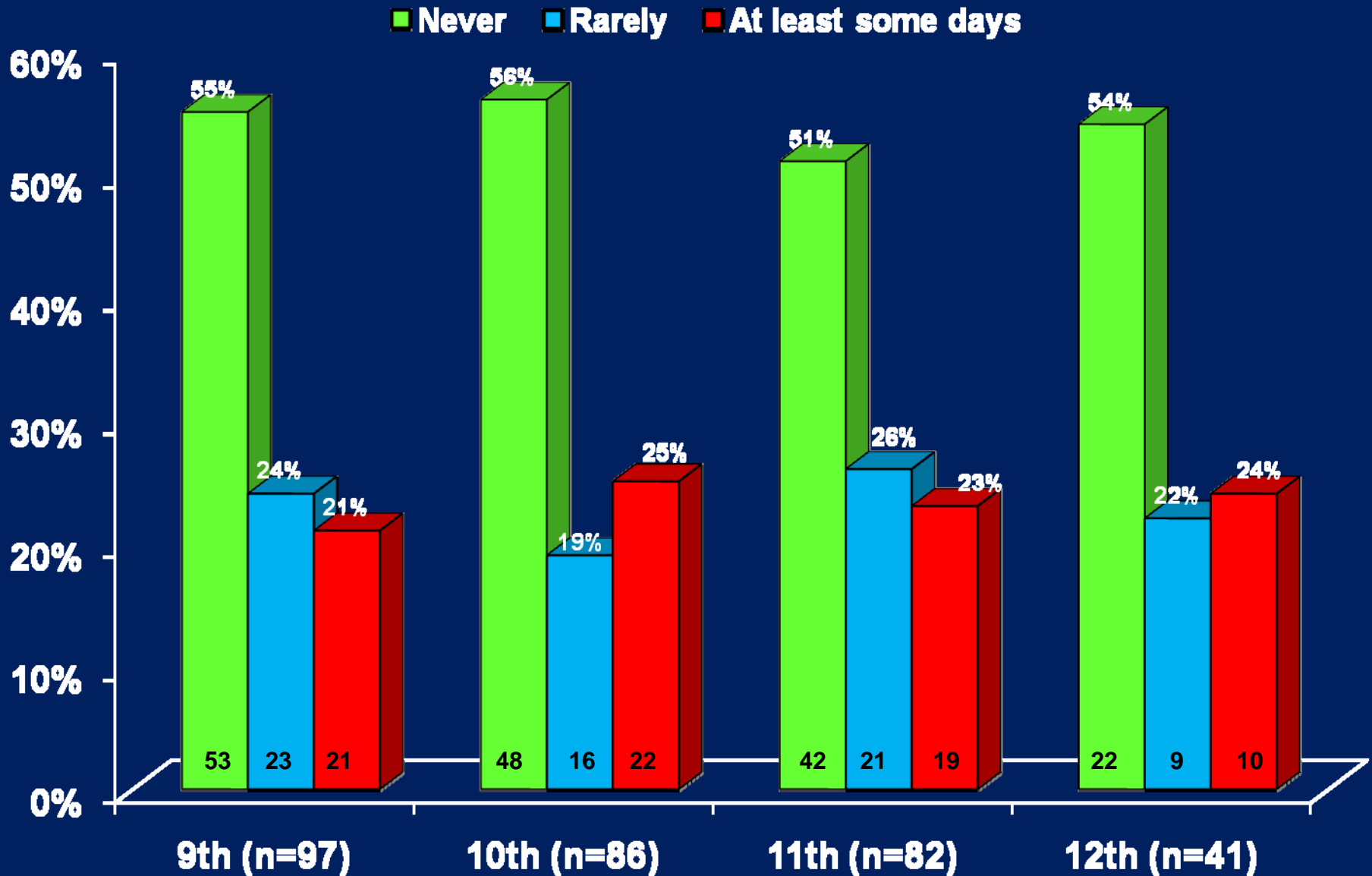
10th (n=134)

11th (n=156)

12th (n=150)

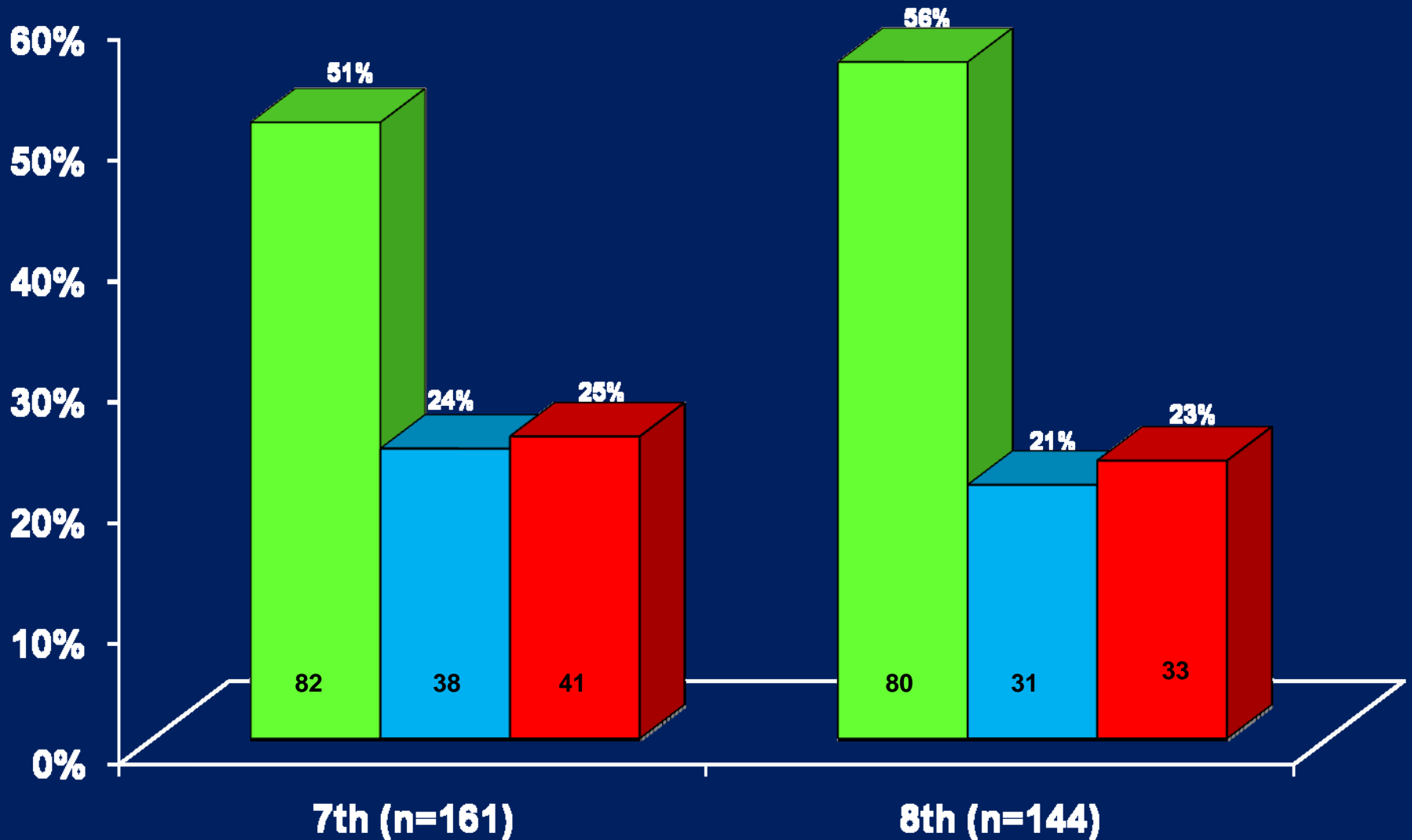
FERNDALE HIGH SCHOOL

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Told stories about you that were not true?*



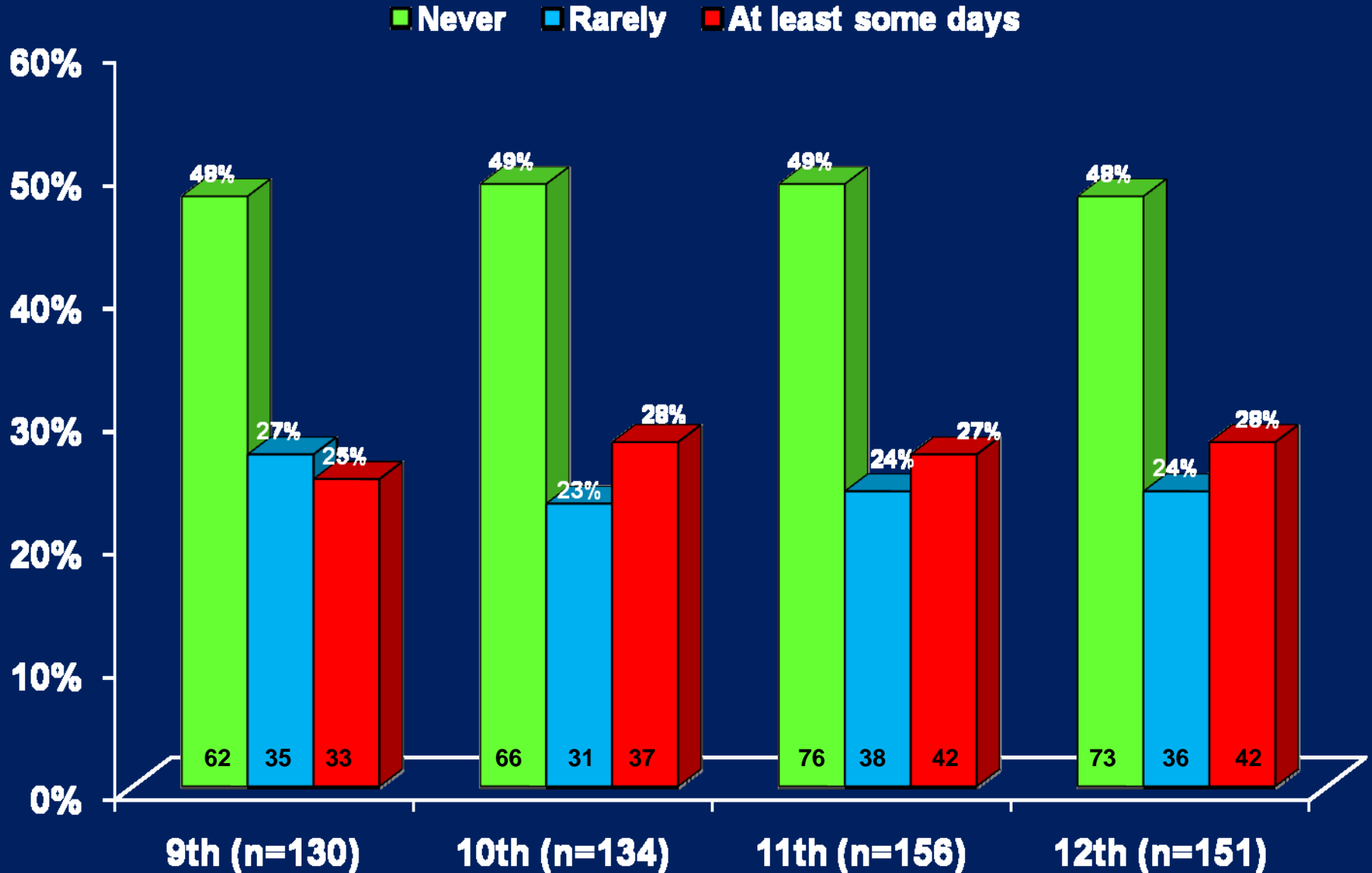
*During the past 12 months, how often have other students...  
Not included you in what they were doing?*

■ Never ■ Rarely ■ At least some days

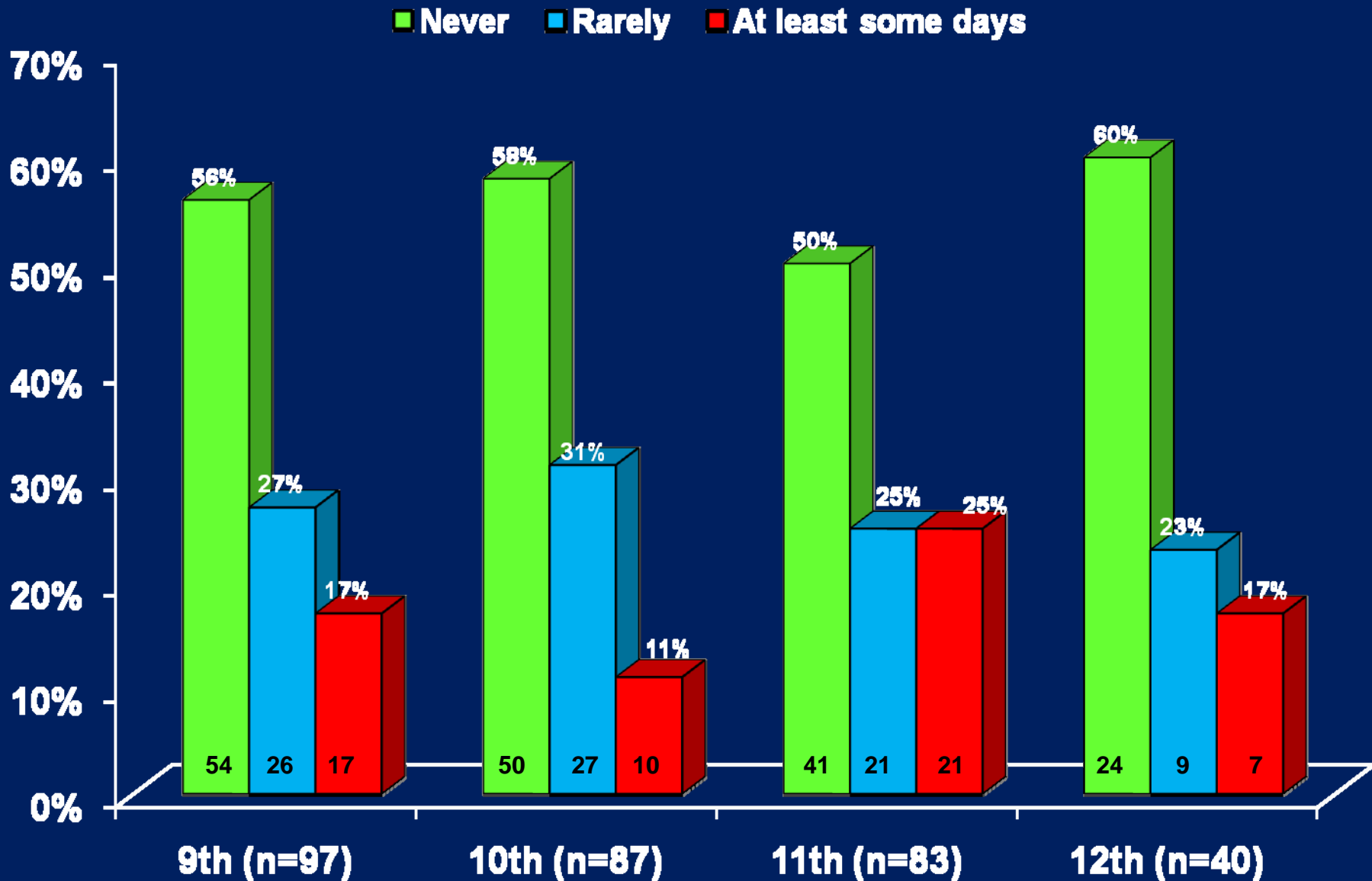


**FERNDALE MIDDLE SCHOOL**

*During the past 12 months, how often have other students...  
Not included you in what they were doing?*



*During the past 12 months, how often have other students...  
Not included you in what they were doing?*



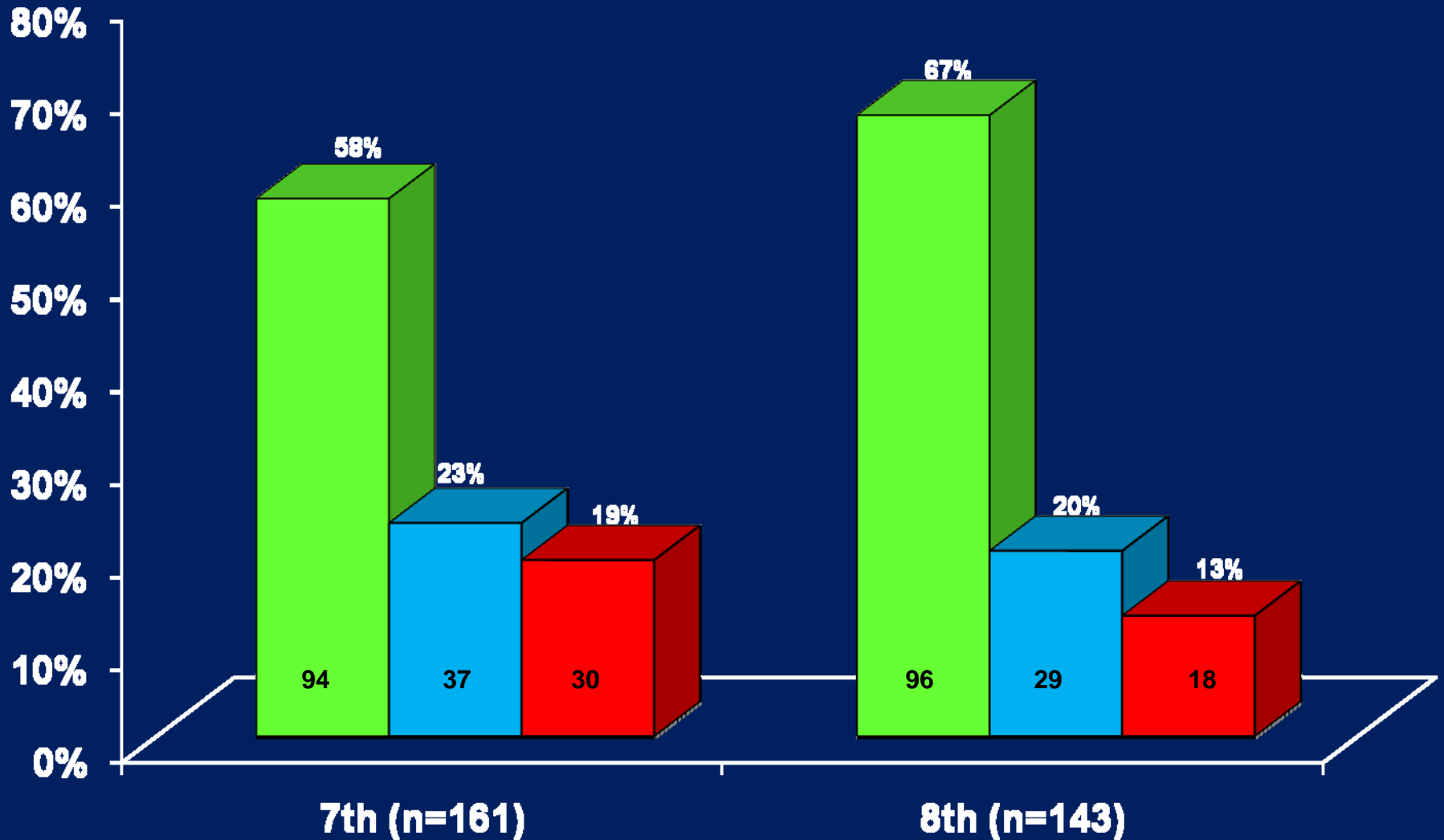
# Physical Bullying

*During the past 12 months, how often have other students.....*

- Taken things that belong to you
- Threatened to hurt you or take things
- Hit, pushed, or kicked you on purpose

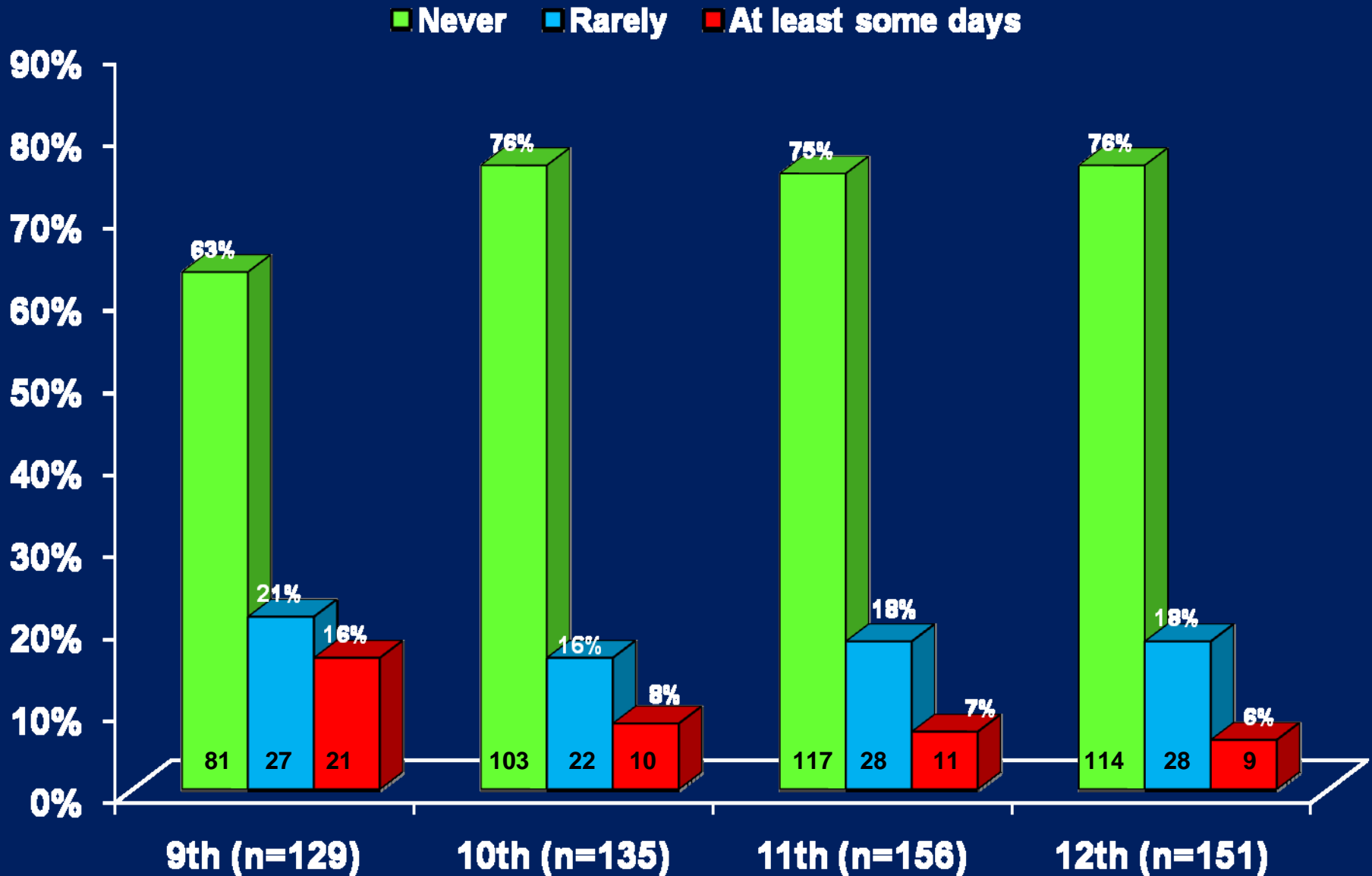
*During the past 12 months, how often have other students...  
Taken things that belong to you?*

■ Never ■ Rarely ■ At least some days



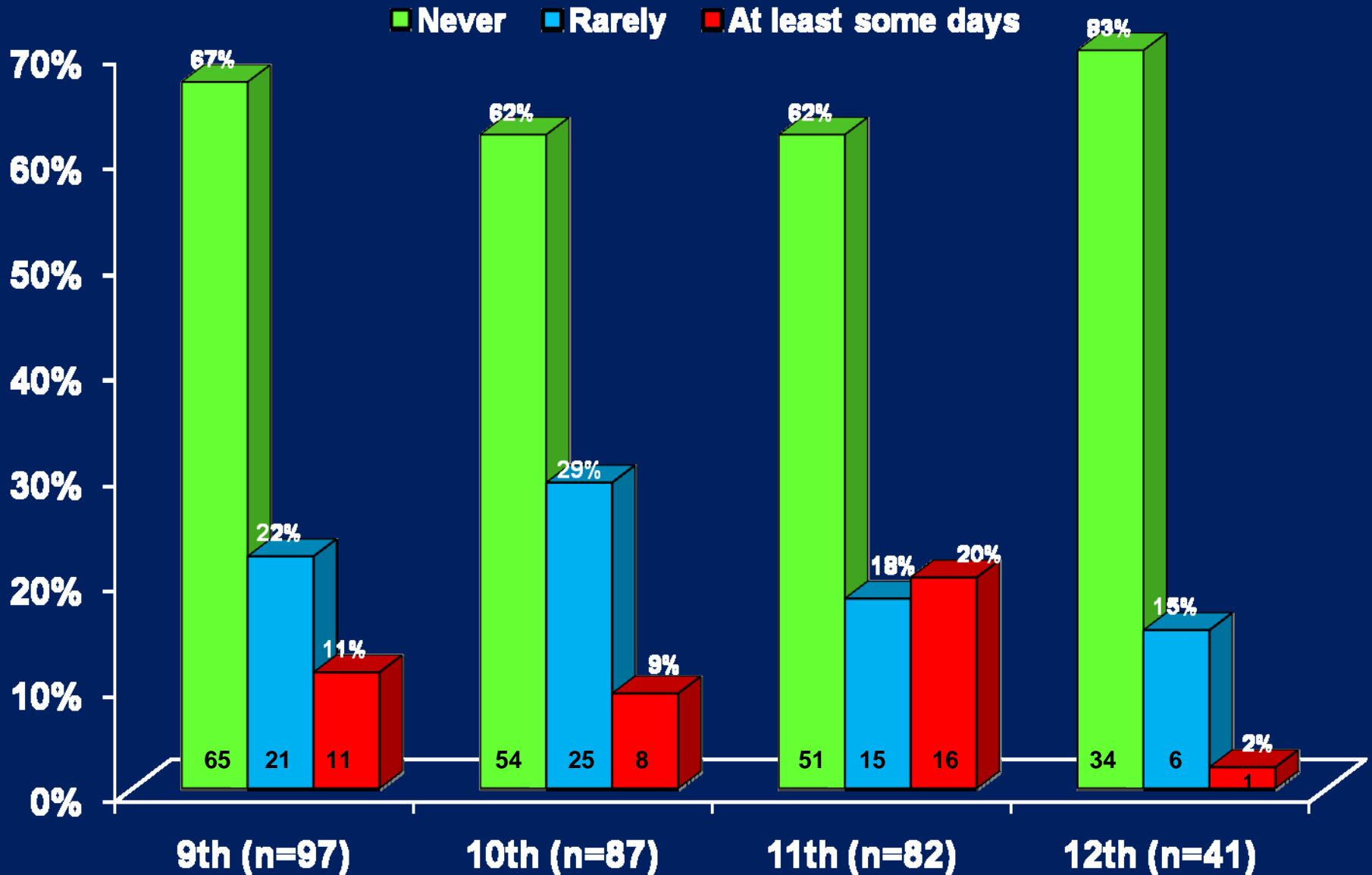
**FERNDALE MIDDLE SCHOOL**

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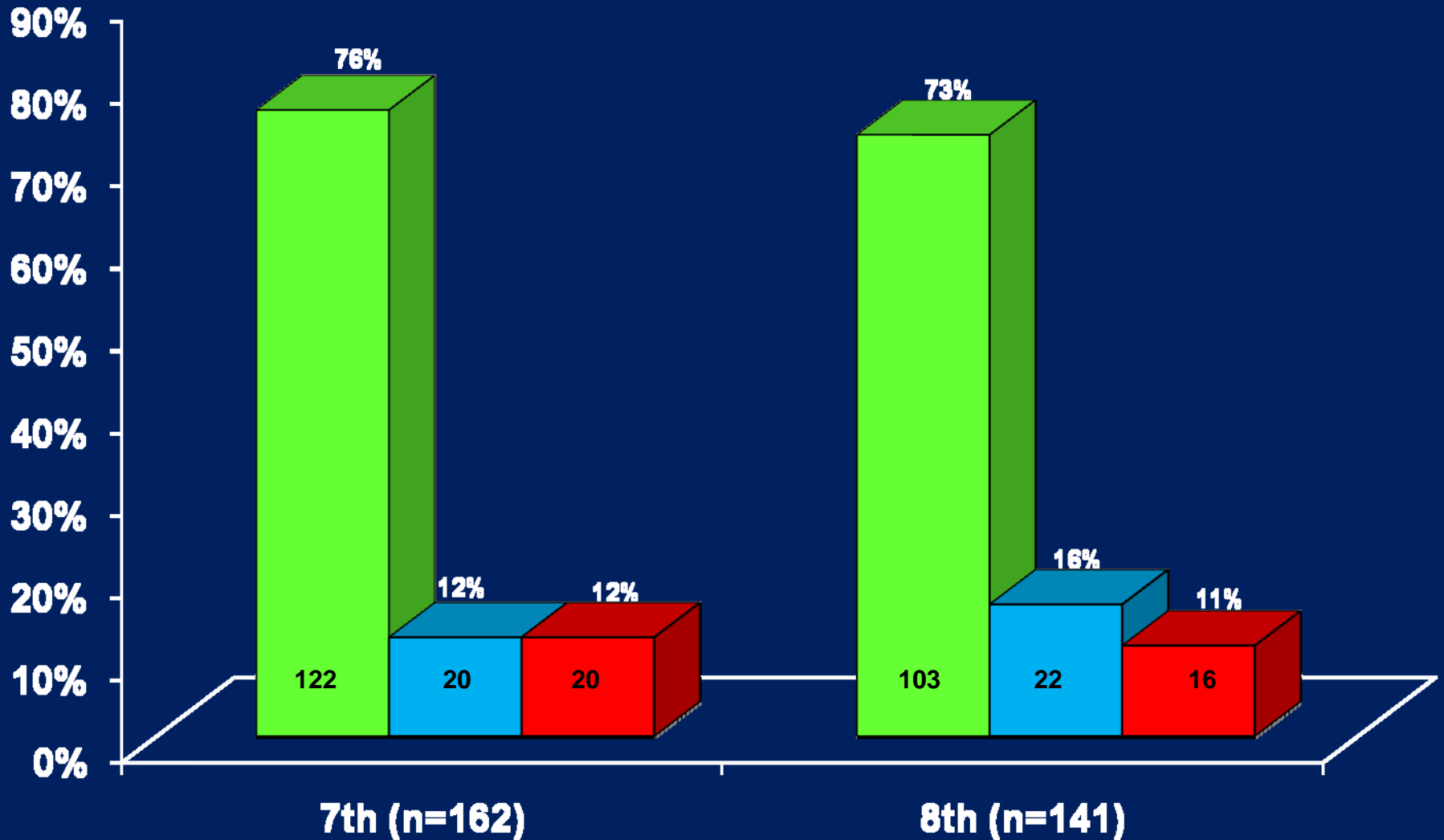
**FERNDAL HIGH SCHOOL**

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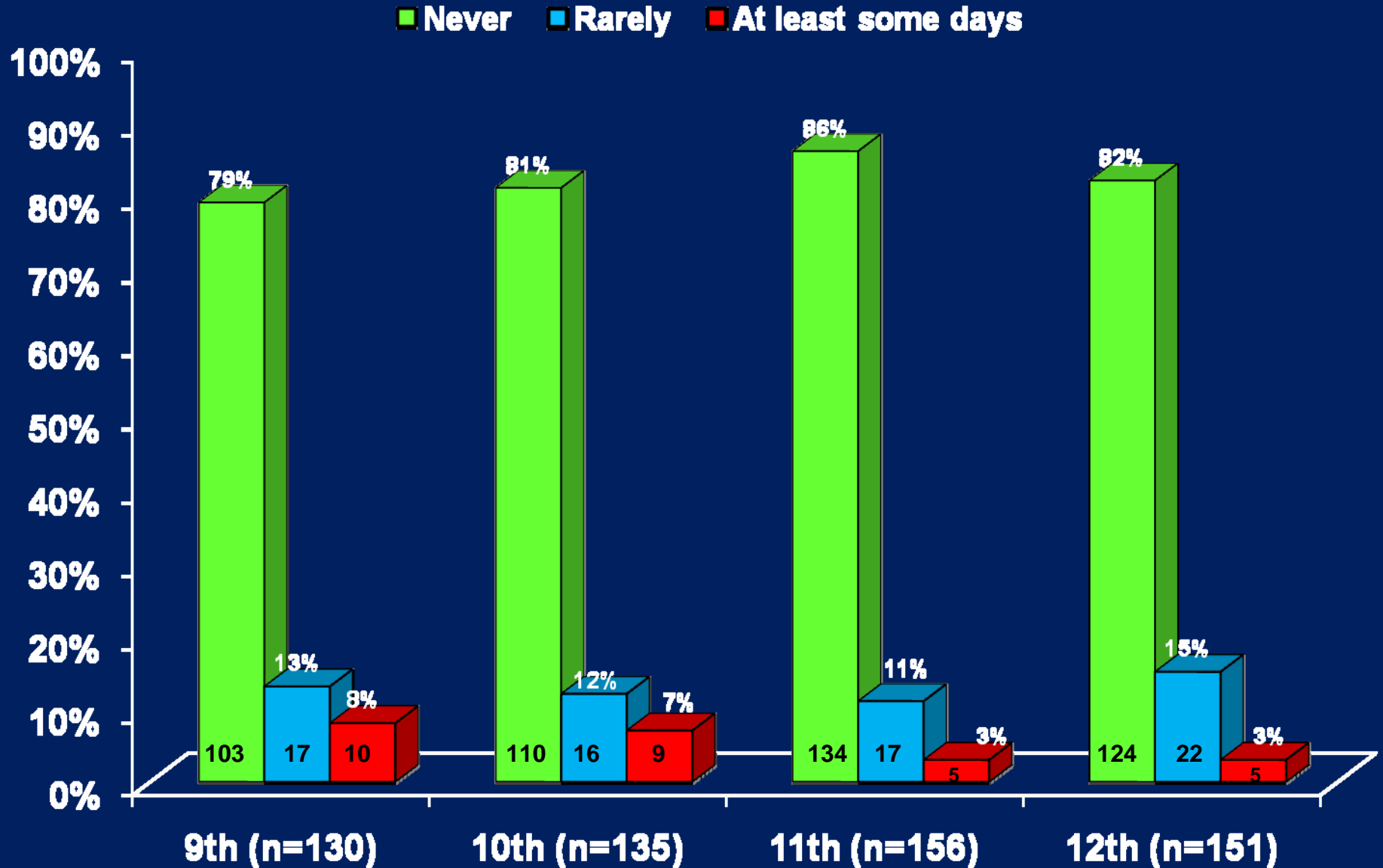


*During the past 12 months, how often have other students...  
Threatened to hurt you or take things?*

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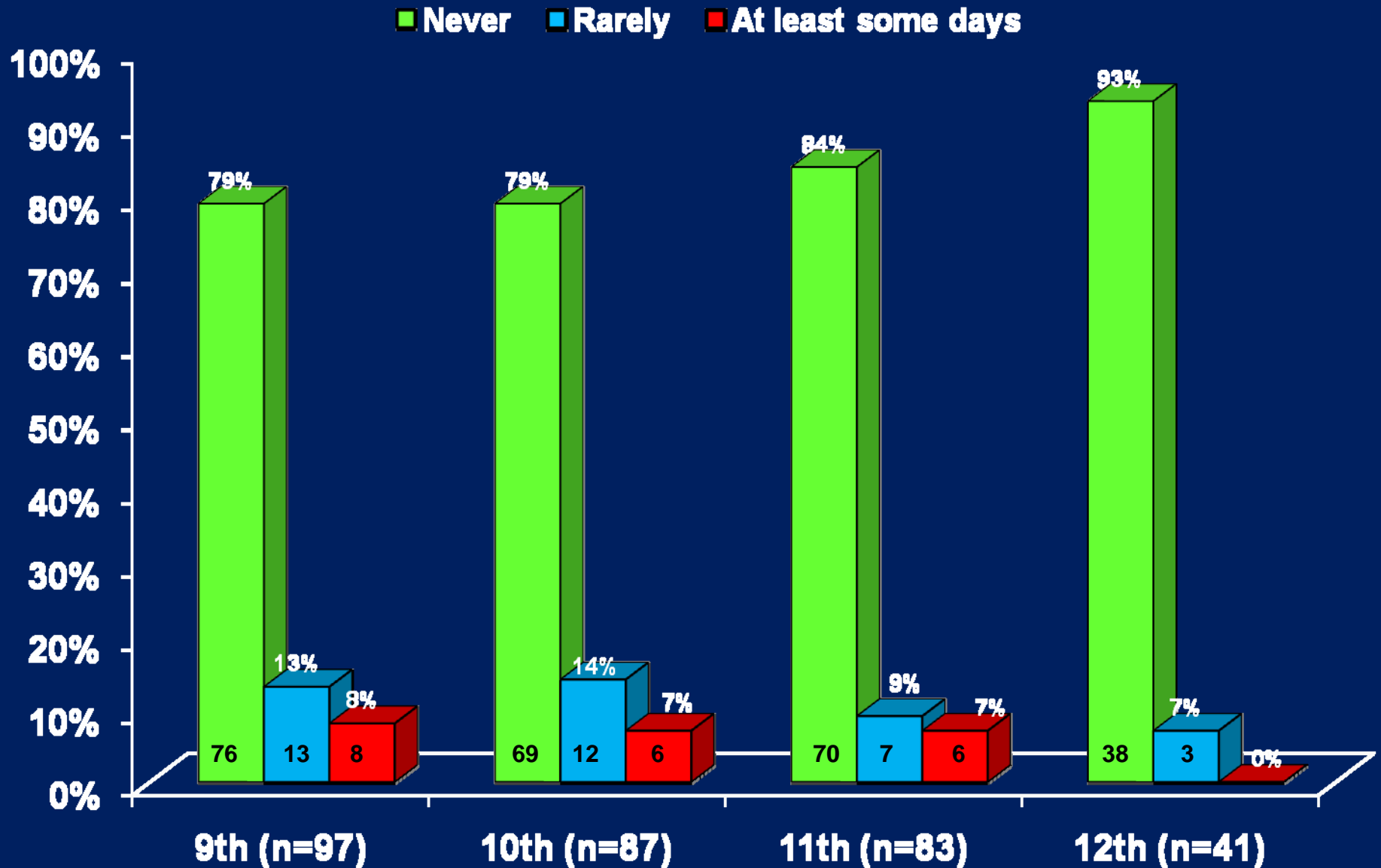


*During the past 12 months, how often have other students...  
Threatened to hurt you or take things?*



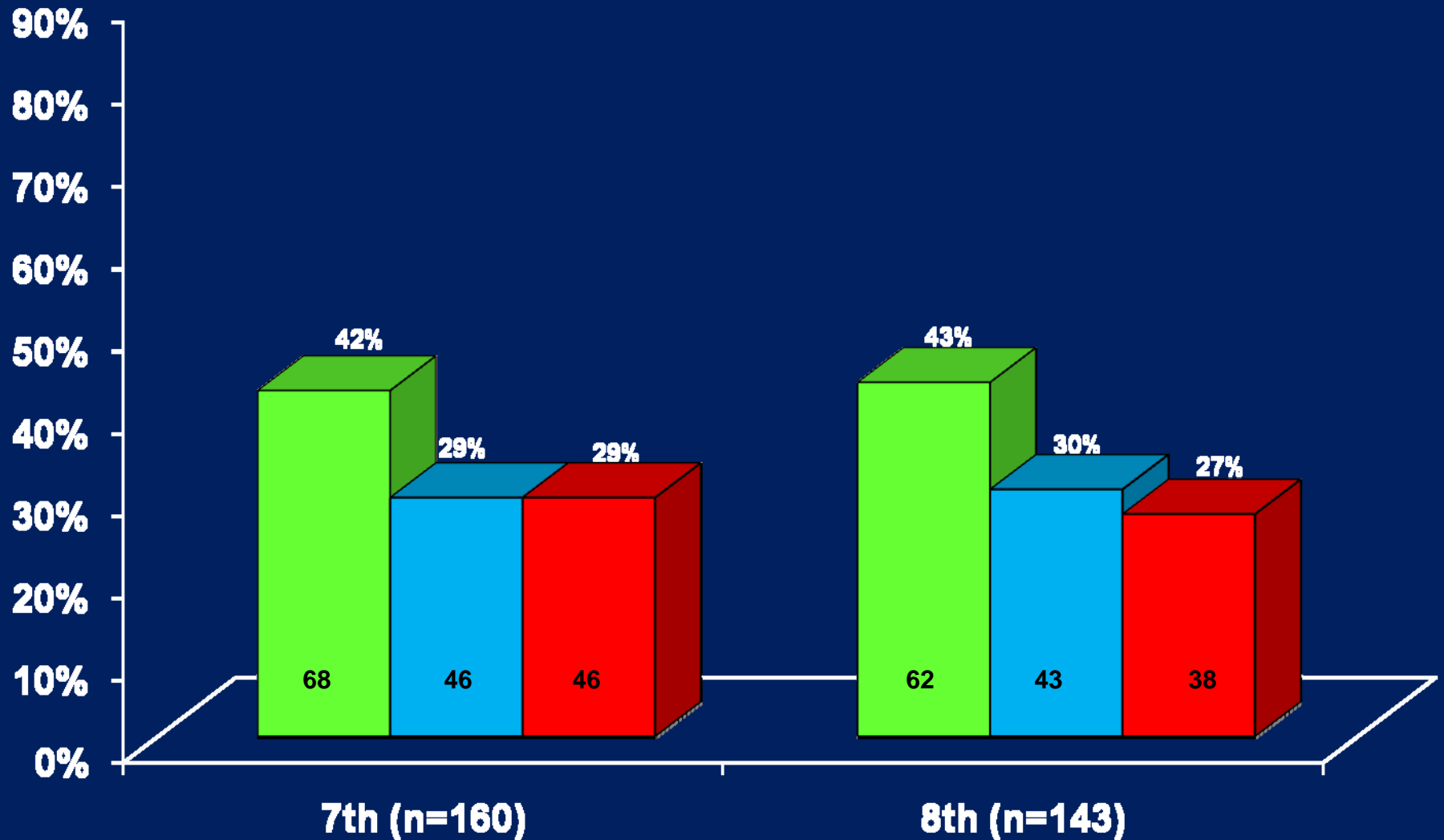
**FERNDALE HIGH SCHOOL**

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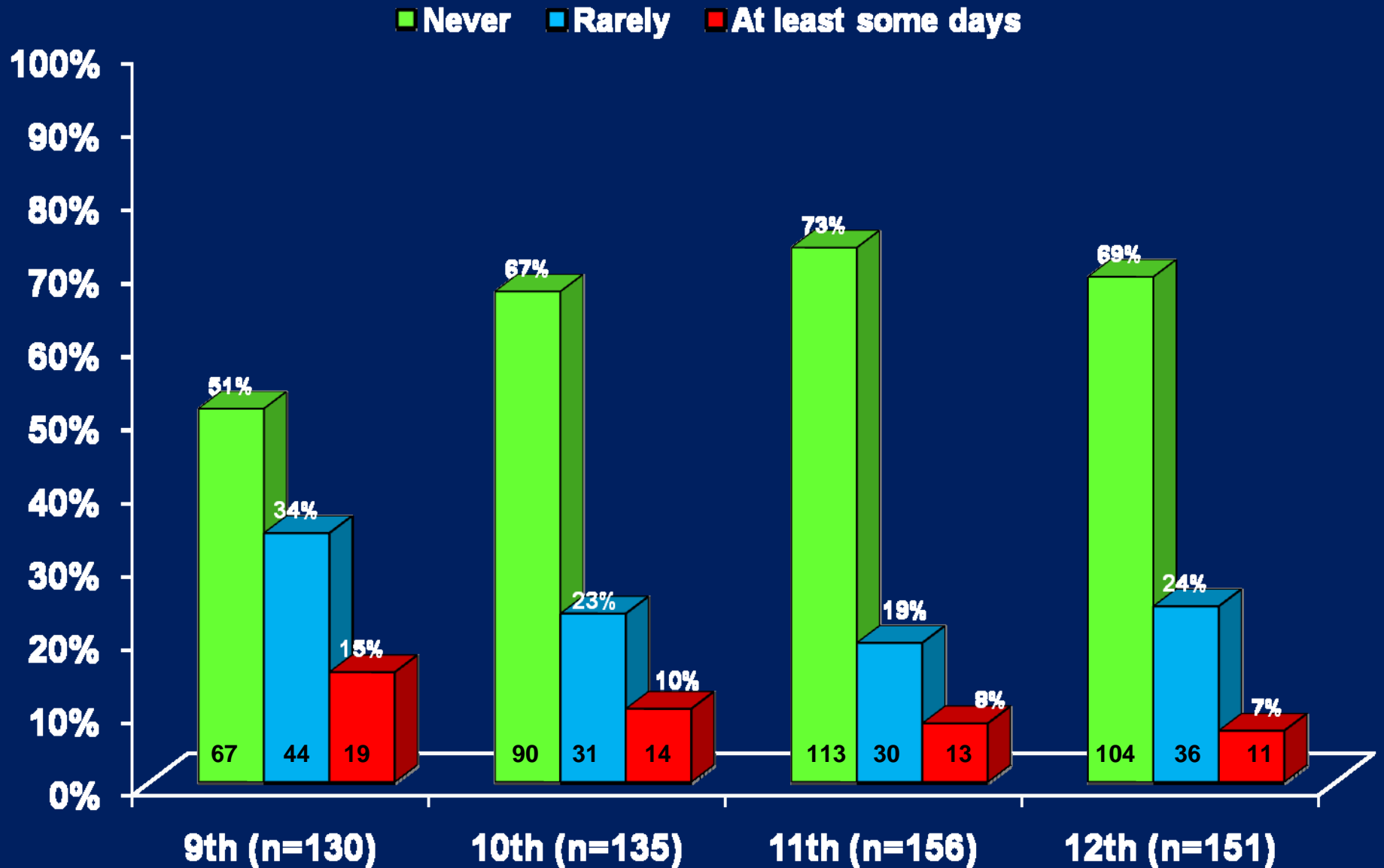


*During the past 12 months, how often have other students...  
Hit, pushed, or kicked you on purpose?*

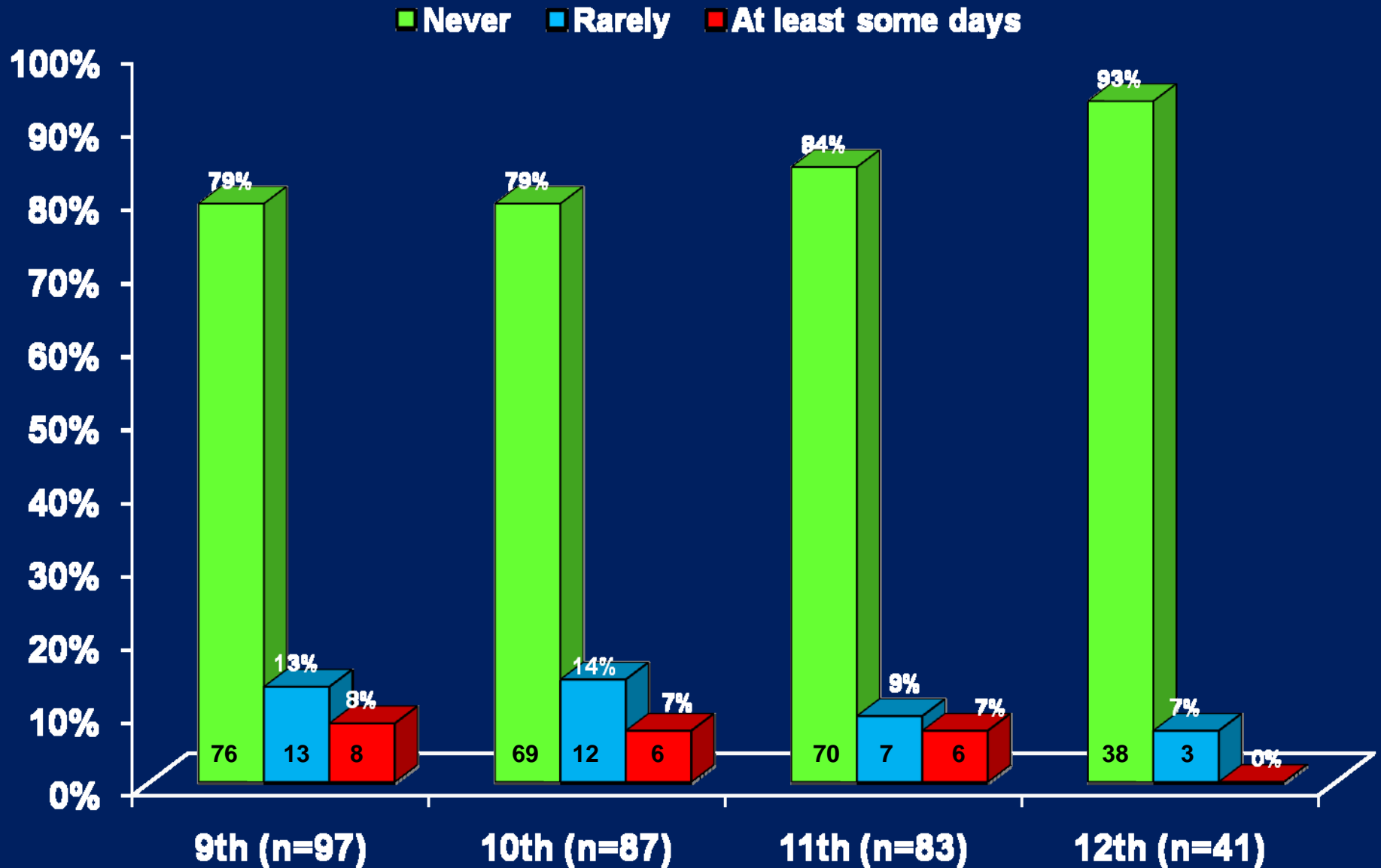
■ Never ■ Rarely ■ At least some days



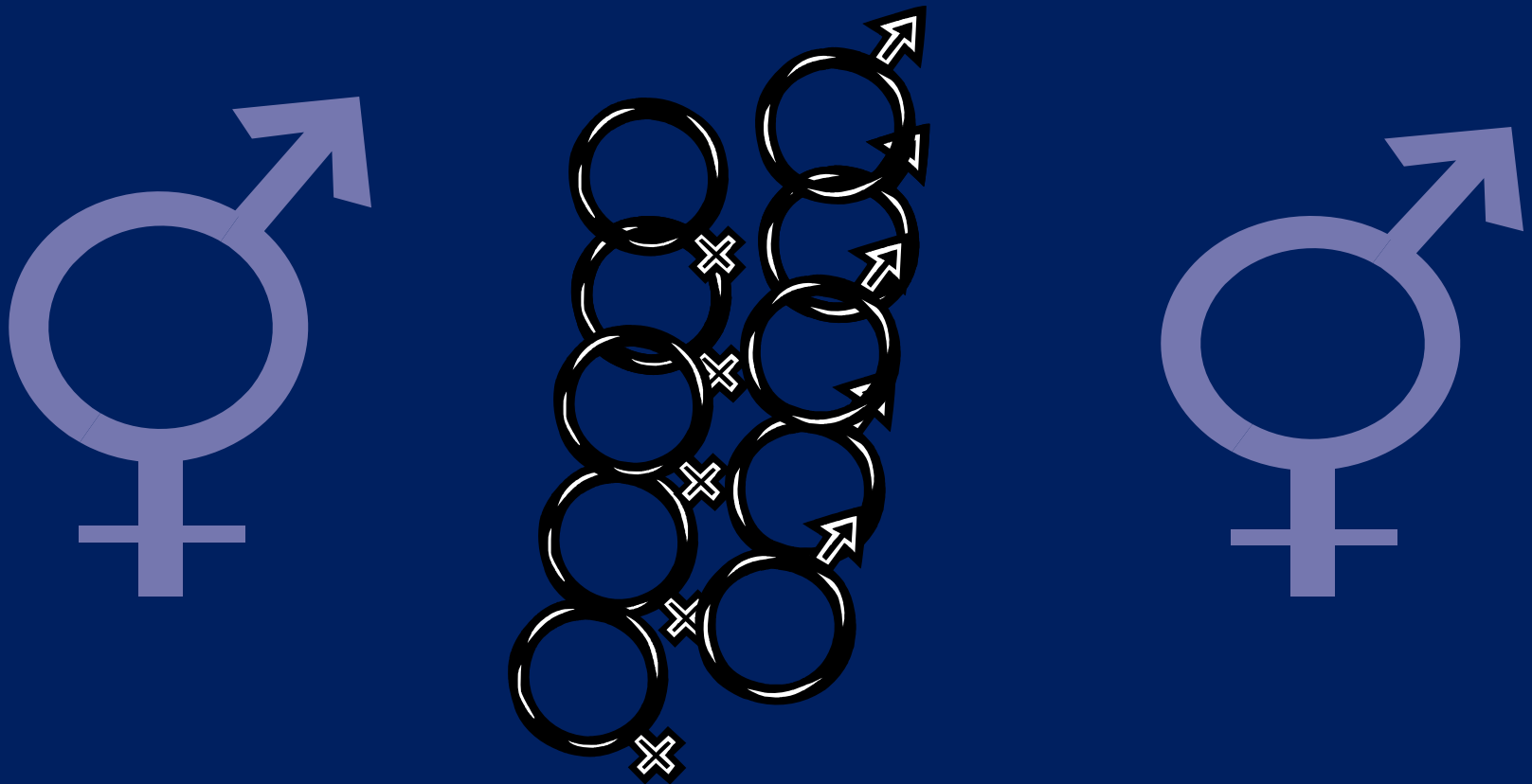
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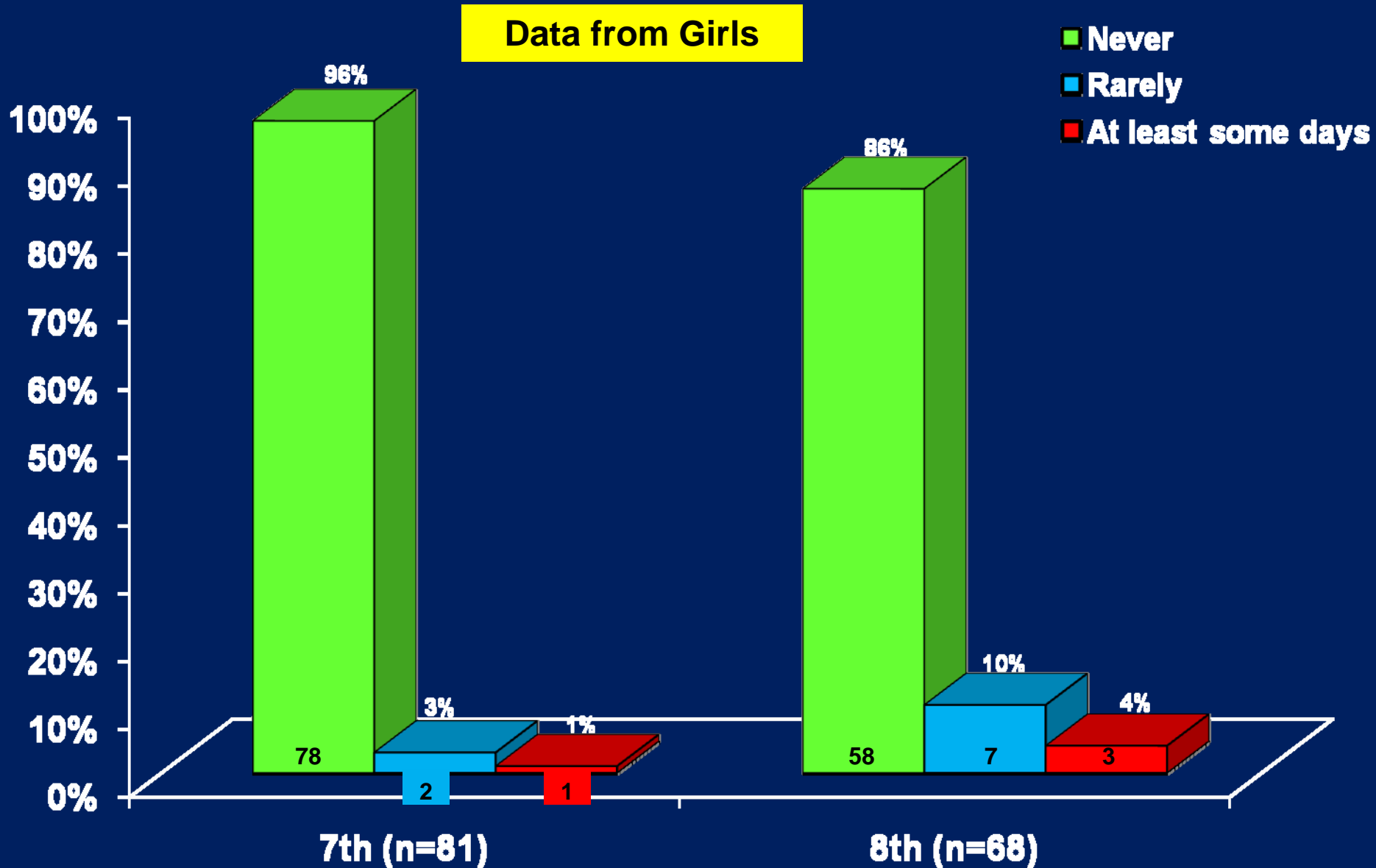
*During the past 12 months, how often have other students...  
Threatened to hurt you or take things?*



# SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND UNWANTED CONTACT



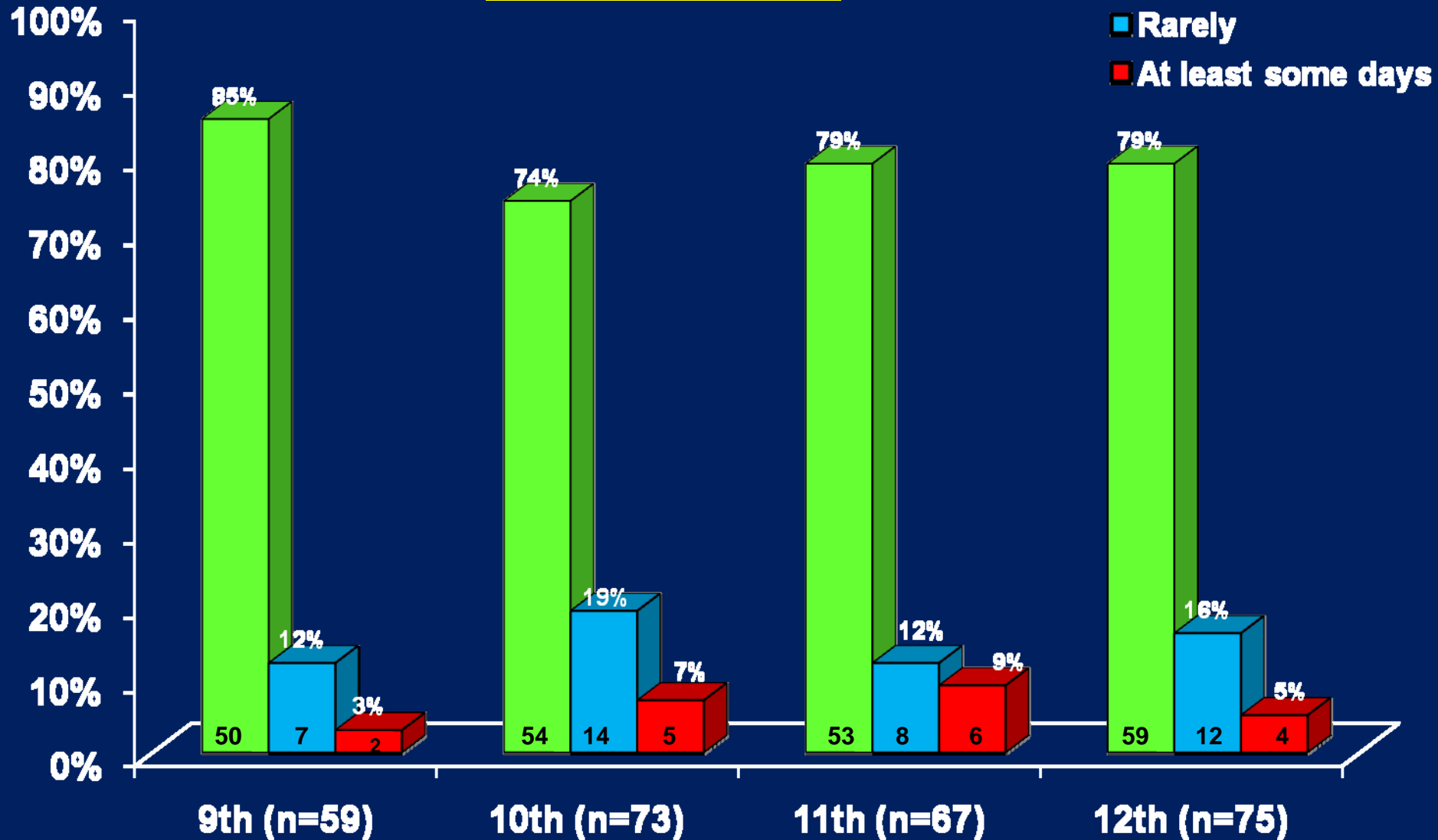
During the past 12 months, how many times has a **boy** about your age...  
Sent you sexual or obscene messages on the computer?



**FERNDALE MIDDLE SCHOOL**

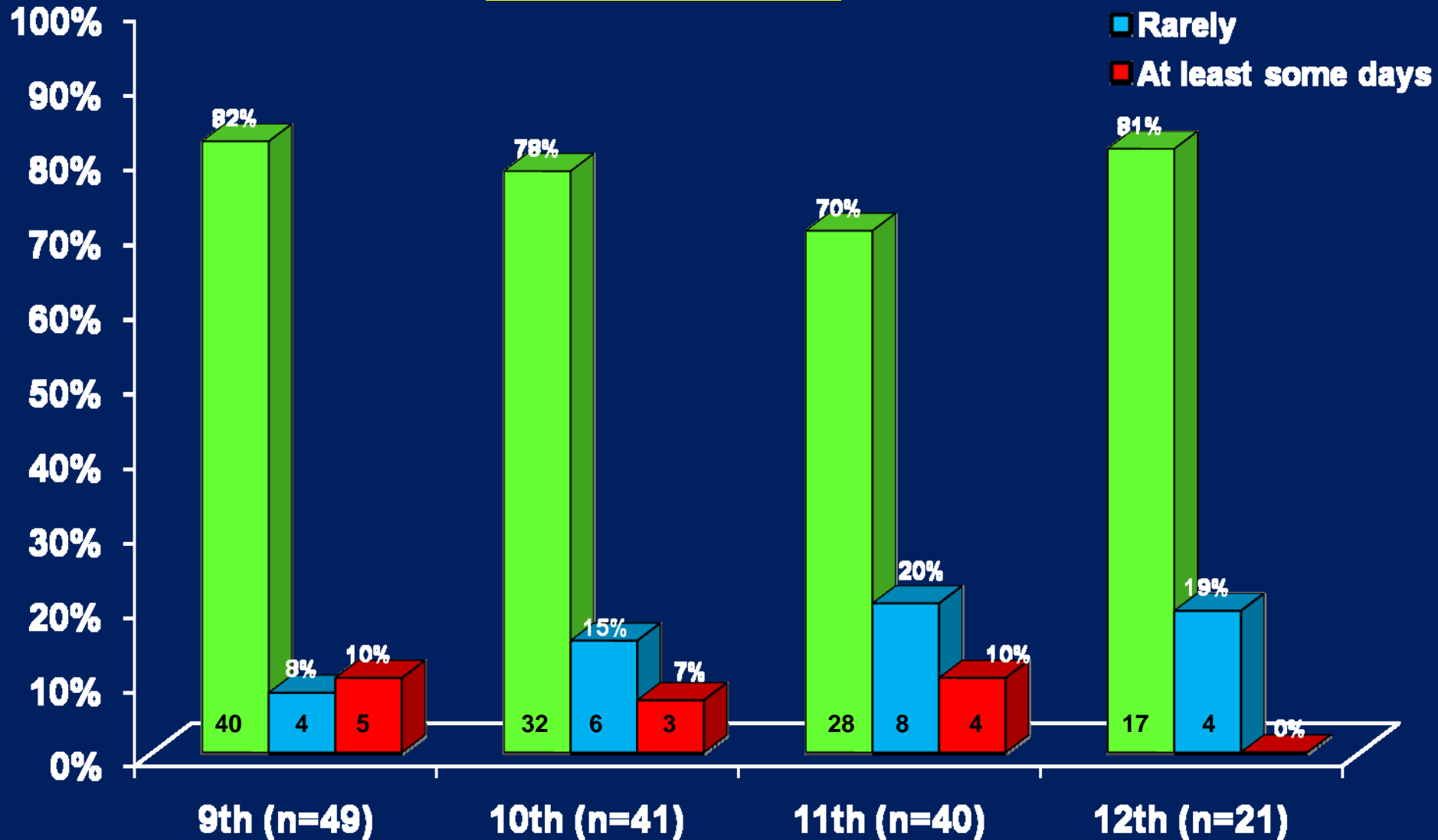
*During the past 12 months, how many times has a **boy** about your age...  
Sent you sexual or obscene messages on the computer?*

**Data from Girls**



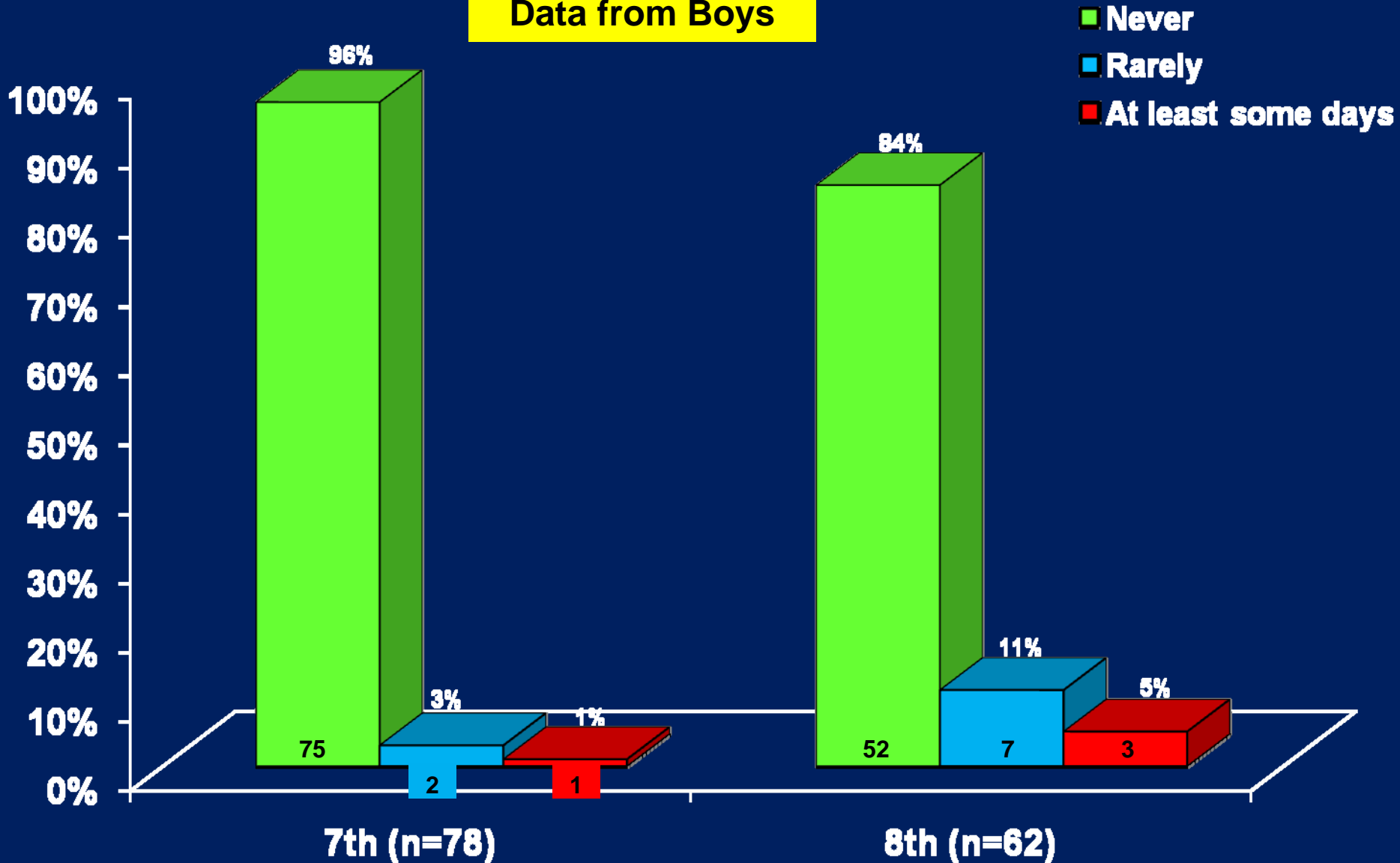
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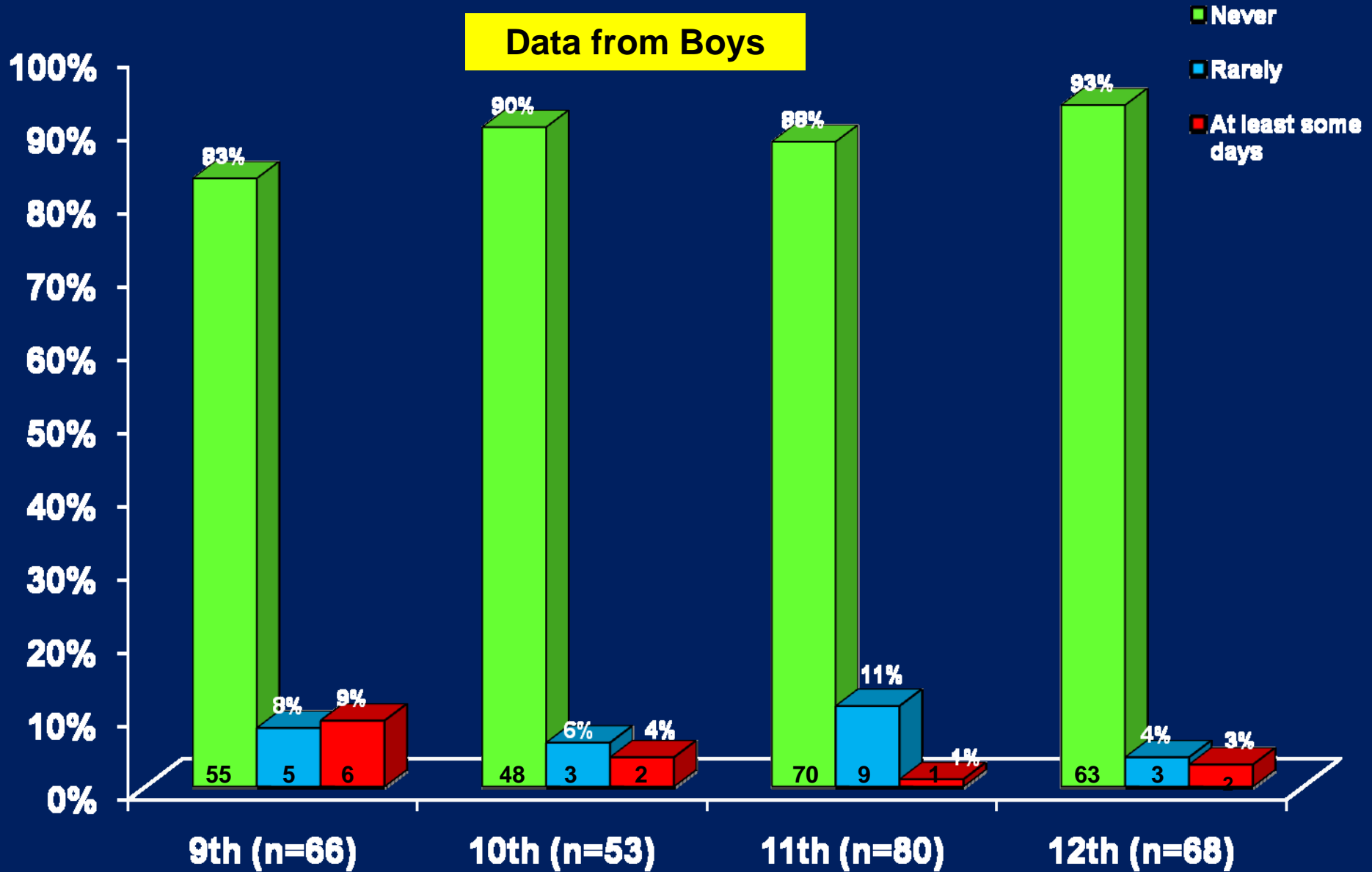


*During the past 12 months, how many times has a **girl** about your age...  
Sent you sexual or obscene messages on the computer?*

**Data from Boys**

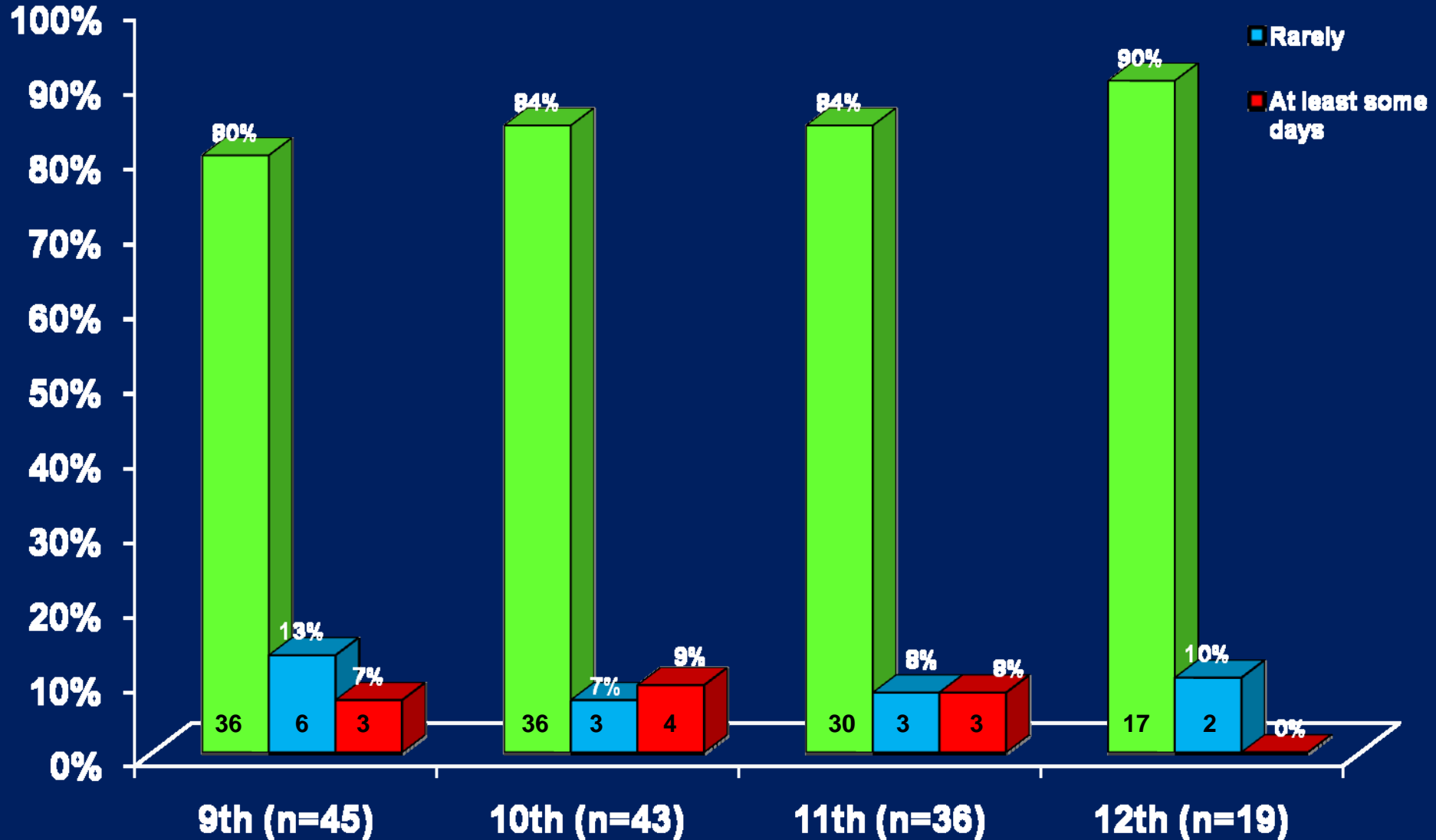


During the past 12 months, how many times has a **girl** about your age...  
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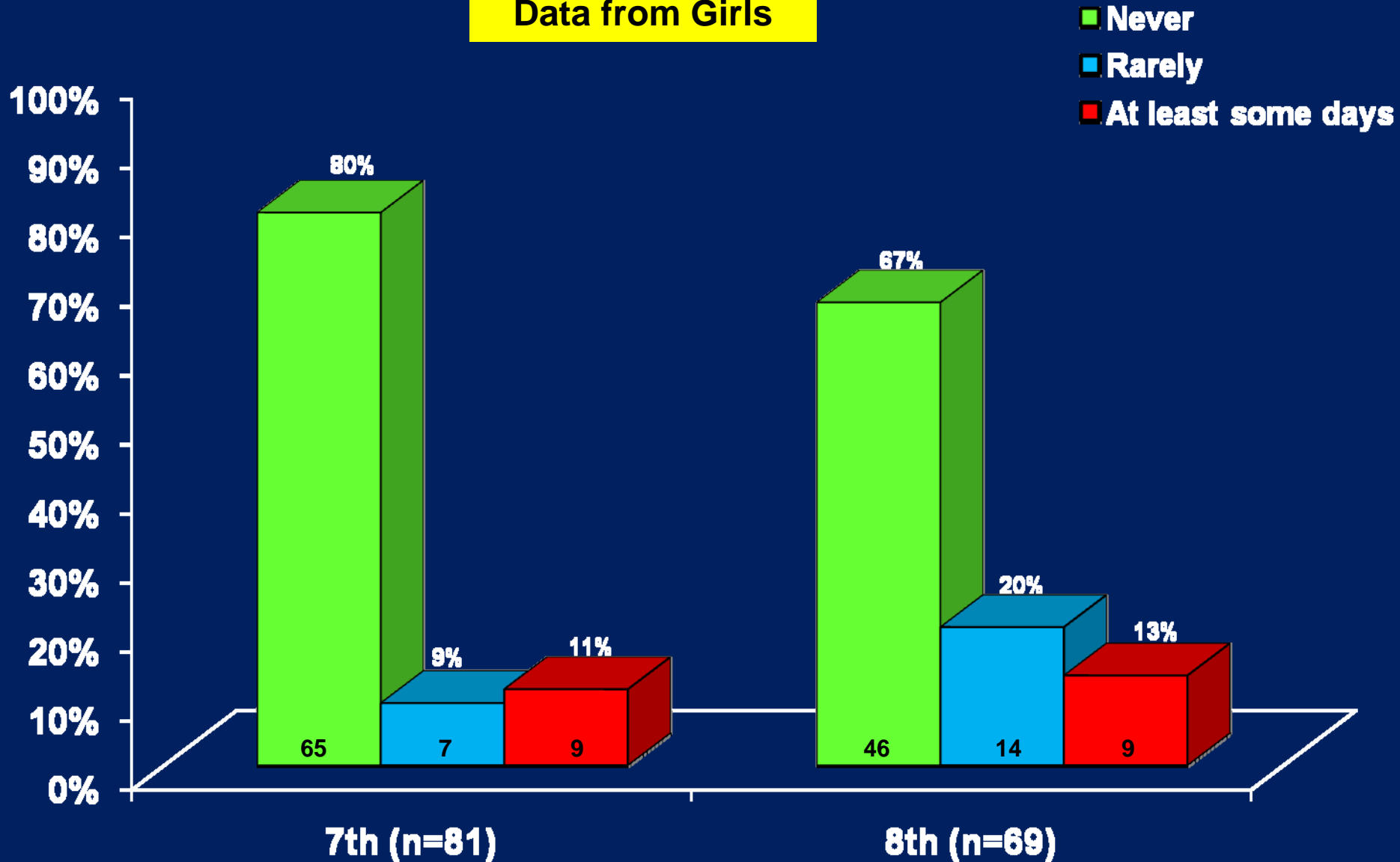
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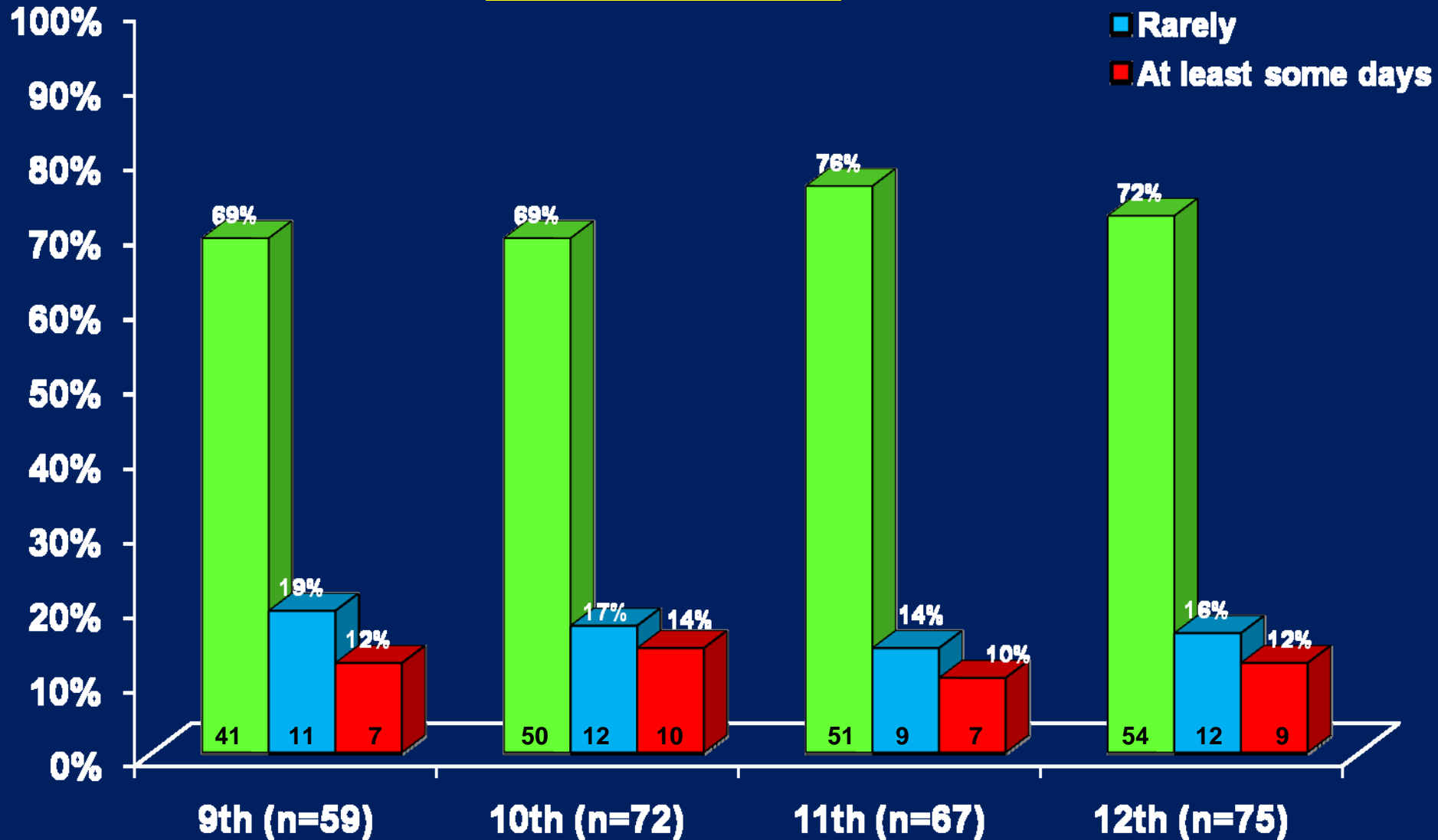
*During the past 12 months, how many times has a **boy** about your age... Kissed, hugged, or sexually touched you when you didn't want him to?*

**Data from Girls**



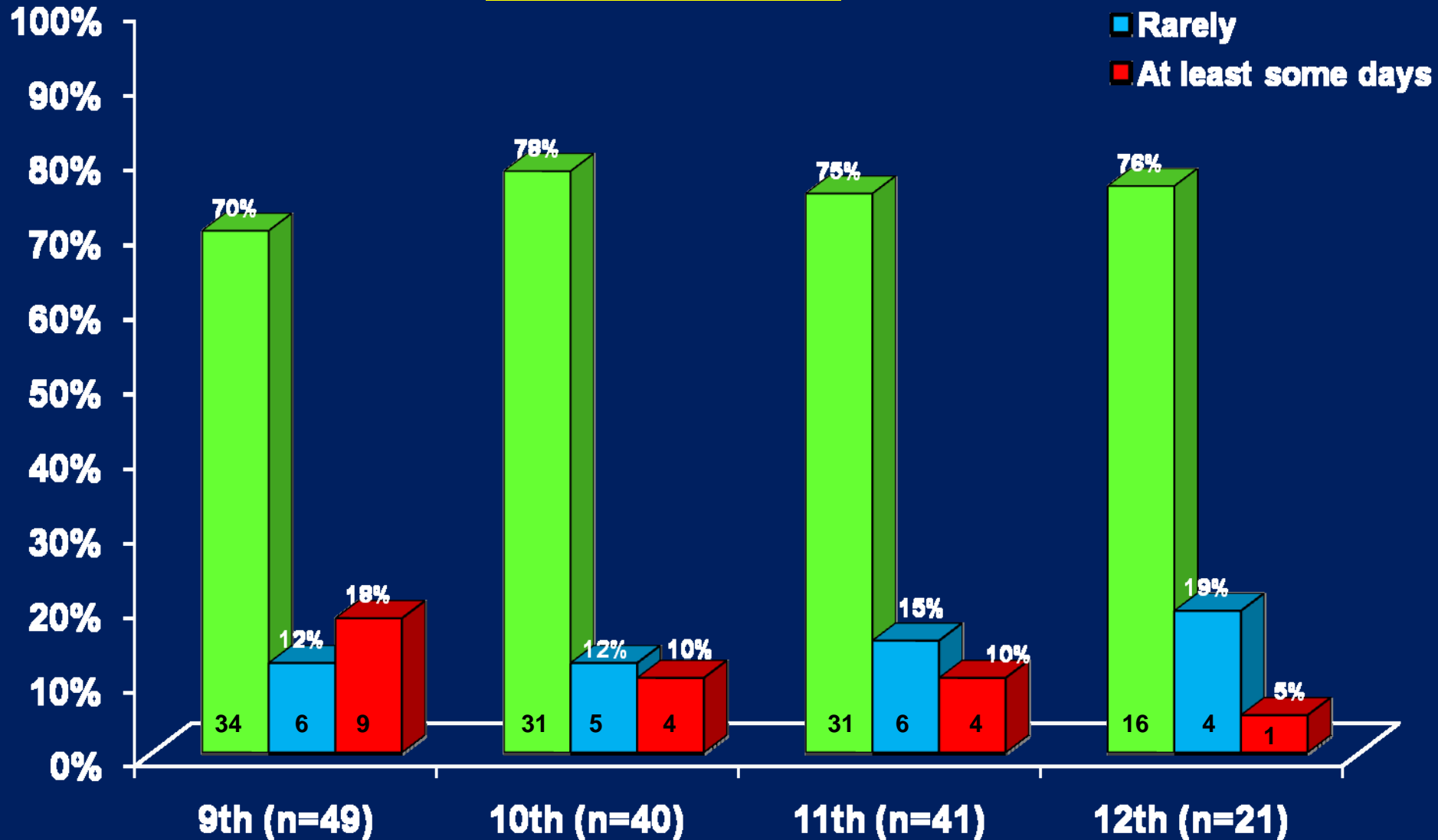
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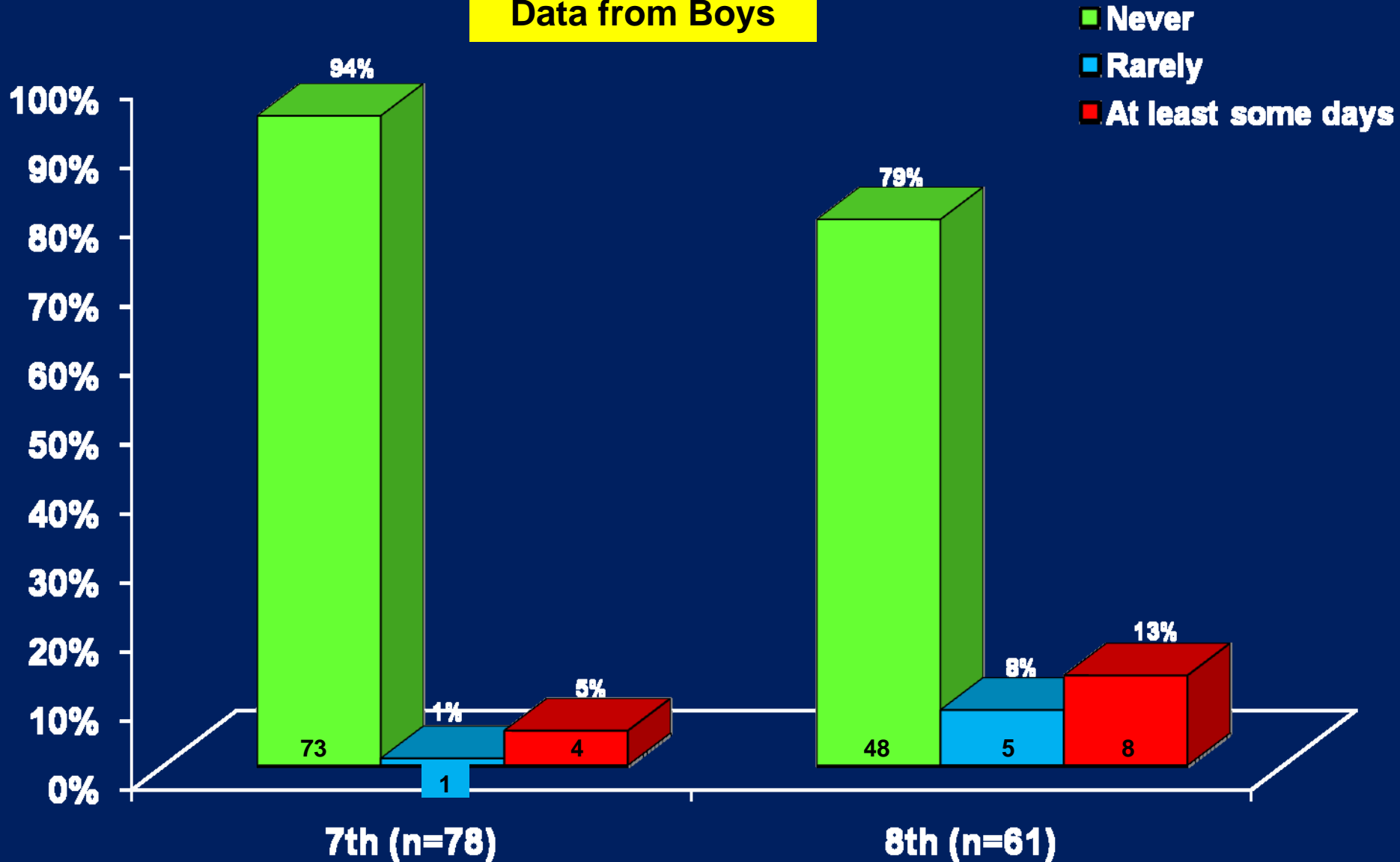
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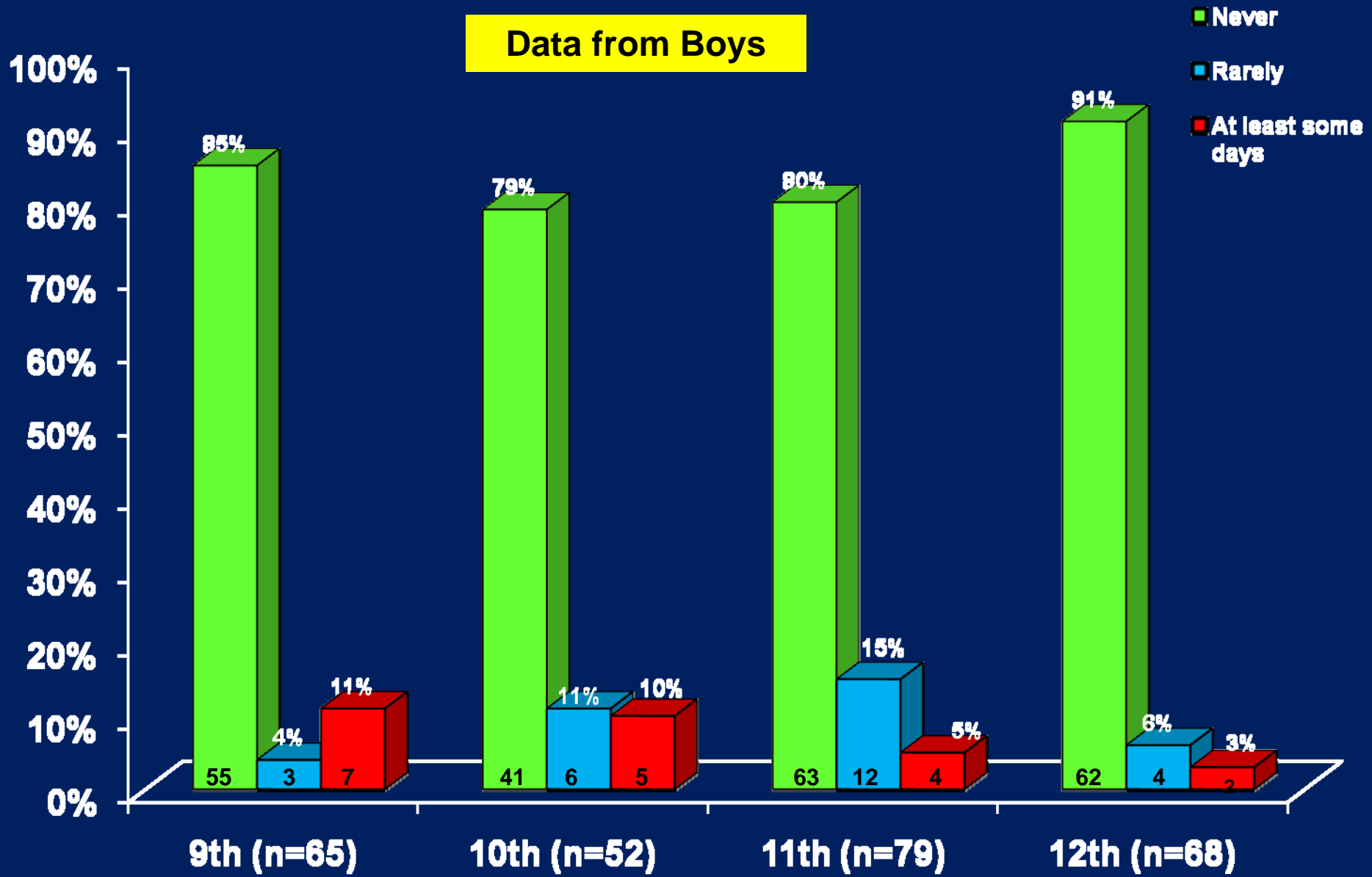


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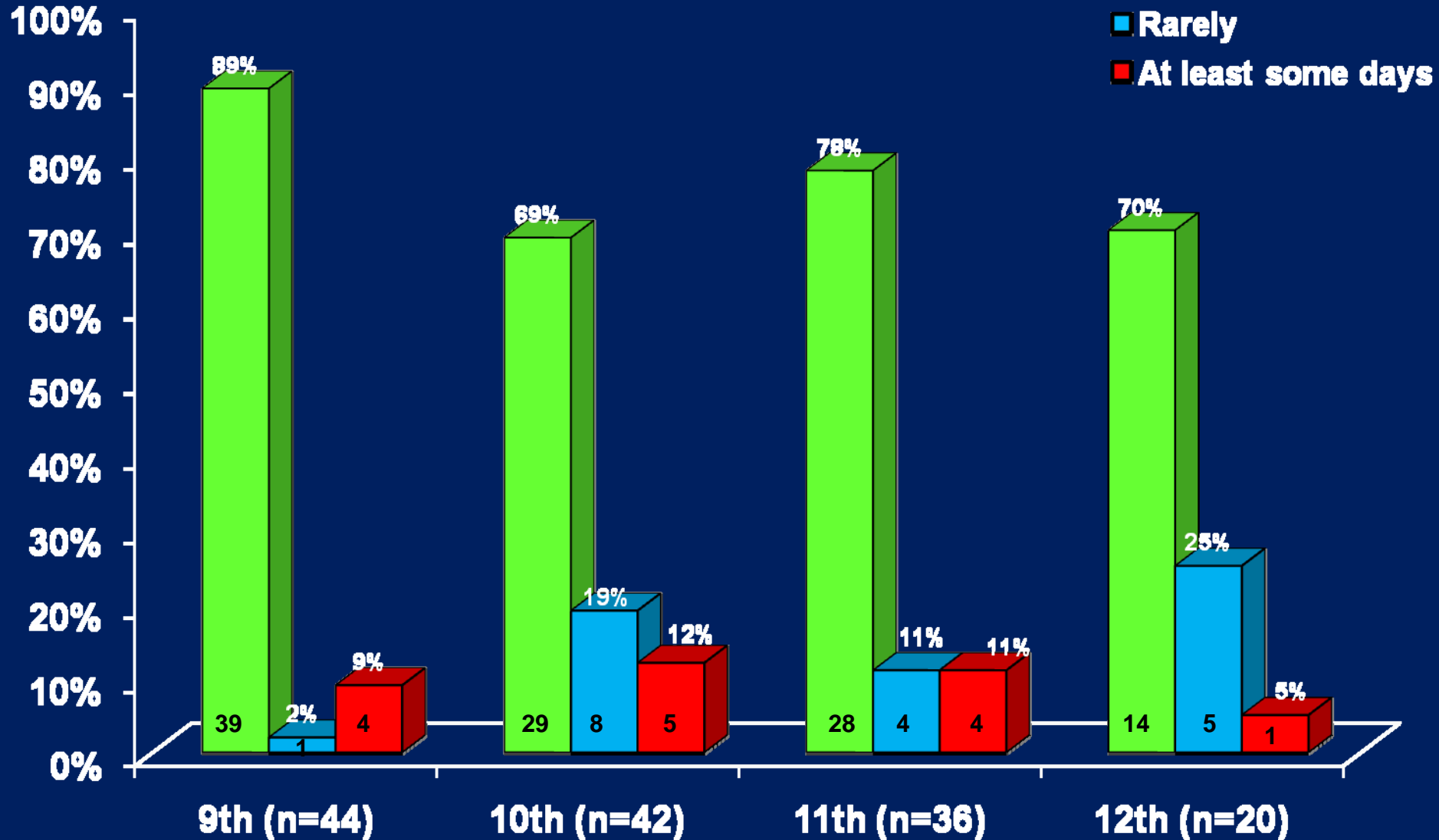


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*During the past 12 months, how many times has a **girl** about your age... Kissed, hugged, or sexually touched you when you didn't want her to?*

**Data from Boys**



# Summary:

## Alcohol, Tobacco and Marijuana

- **Alcohol use** is less when compared to national estimates.
- **Tobacco use** is higher for 12<sup>th</sup> graders when compared to national estimates.
- **Marijuana use** is less when compared to the national estimates..
- Misuse of **prescription medications** is less when compared to national estimates

# Summary: Bullying & Sexual Harassment

- Although most FPS students **do not report** being the victim of **bullying**, this form of aggression deserves all of our attention.
- Sexual harassment is more likely to be reported by girls. Although there is **relatively low prevalence**, this also deserves continued attention.
- It is beyond the scope of this evaluation, however, future assessments might consider the role of social media and text messaging.

# CONCLUDING REMARKS

Ferndale Public Schools continue to: 1) evaluate their students and 2) describe student experiences. **The goal is to become the best school district possible.**

Ferndale Public Schools have some of the same social problems of other school districts and in many cases FPS has fewer problems (e.g. drug use).

Ferndale Public Schools will continue to make these types of data available to the public.